
The WEEKLY

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 201.....7th March 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

Apart from a near disaster with a faulty computer, which nearly lost us all our subscribers and most of this week's report, things have been relatively quiet. As a result, we have taken the unprecedented step this week, of featuring a proposed legal station in the report. By the name of Millenium Radio or Millenium 88 FM, the station is due on air later this month, from Dublin city, and features a number of very well known names from the 'pirate' world. This week, we feature the official announcement from RTE, and when it does come on air, due to the fact that we will be able to hear it, we intend to log and report on its progress. All this is in view of the apparent demise of the Irish pirates, which is on the cards, as a result of legislation currently being hustled through the Dail (The Irish Parliament) at the present time. We shall also report on the Radio Tara project, as and when news and information is at hand.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is a good read for anyone interested in free radio and at 20p per copy, constitutes very good value. To become a postal subscriber, the following weekly rates are current..... Posted first class within the U.K., or to any E.E.C. country, including Eire, the cost is 40p..... Posted second class (U.K. only), 35p..... To non E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Finland, Norway and Switzerland), the cost is 45p, and posted elsewhere, by air mail, the cost is 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish, at the above appropriate rate.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT and really get results. Our news-sheet goes through the letterboxes of almost 800 households, both at home and abroad, every week. Your advert could be on display within. A full page is only £20.00, a half page, £11.00 and a quarter, £6.00. Simply send us a copy (on white paper if possible) of what you would like to see in print (any size), include the necessary remittance, and leave the rest to us. It's as simple as that!

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO-LINE will keep you abreast of the news, almost as soon as it happens. Ring (0795) 511118 and hear a three minute regularly up-dated message. If you have news for us, then ring (0795) 511119 and leave your message after the whistle tone. Subscription and merchandise enquiries must be directed to Blackpool, where the number is (0253) 882017. No news will be available from the latter number, we regret.

COMMUNICATE 88

MONITOR

Offshore Echo's

ANORAKS UK

P.O. BOX 539
BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE
Tel (0253) 882017

'COMMUNICATE 88'. The leaders have joined forces, Monitor magazine, Offshore Echo's and Anoraks U.K. have formed M.O.A. Promotions, who in turn are promoting the above free radio convention of 1988. The event is to be staged in the luxurious Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre, which is situated right behind Blackpool's famous tower. Entry is by the Church Street entrance and although it is a first floor location, a lift is available for the disabled. The date is Saturday 24th September and the event will run from 11:00 till 23:00. The cost of a badge of entry will be £10.00 and admission will be by this badge only. Children under 12 years, will be admitted free, but only with the appropriate badge. On hand will be the Caroline North Roadshow, hosted by Dave Simpson and we are hopeful that as many celebrities as possible, from all aspects of free radio, will come along and address the convention with stories of their piratical past (and present). Exhibitors will not be charged for stands, but all members of the sales team, including the leader, must be in possession of a fully paid up badge of entry. The Winter Gardens houses all sorts of entertainment and of special interest to children, will be the Peabody's Play Palace, where the younger ones can play, all day if they want, under supervision, nearby. The bar will also be open all day, as will snack bars and restaurants (please note: no food is included in the admission price). Being in the centre of town, all other amenities are close at hand, including a massive multi-story car park, hosts of eating establishments, within yards of the venue, and, of course, the beach. The motorway runs right into the town itself and ends up on another massive car park, again, quite close by. Two small problems though, the town is likely to be very, very busy indeed, and accomodation, unless booked quite early, is likely to be difficult to find, unless you are prepared to travel out of town a bit. Rooms for one night only and single rooms, will be like gold, and this is because of the world famous Blackpool Illuminations,

which you must not miss, under any circumstances. Rooms for two nights should be no problem, however, if booked early. We intend to assist anyone with lists of accomodation, as this is the Blackpool style, and enquiries, initially, may be directed to us in the first instance. An SAE to P.O. Box 539, Blackpool, will get you such a list. The Blackpool Hotel and Guesthouse Association tell us that they will do all they can to ensure everyone has accomodation and their telephone number is (0253) 21891. SEND NO MONEY AT THIS STAGE, as an official booking form will be forthcoming shortly, but we do recommend you book your accomodation first, preferably, right now.

NEW MERCHANDISE. Due to a further great demand, we have once again, concluded a deal with FotoFlite of Ashford in Kent and can offer a set of four 7" x 5" superb colour prints of the Ross Revenge. This latest set, entitled '**Ross Revenge-The New Masts**', will be available from Saturday 12th March. The reason we are offering four this time, rather than two is simple.... FotoFlite sent us four samples, for us to choose two. Due to the fact that these were the four most colourful and clear shots we have ever seen of the ship (in contrast to the last ones taken in November, which were very Wintry looking), and none of us could agree which were the best, we have decided to offer all four. Taken in the Spring-like sunshine, with a 'slight' sea, the close-up aerial photos show the two new masts clearly and the staff on board can be seen working to guy the rear one (in between waving to the 'plane!'). The passing Olau Line ferry is almost alongside on one of the shots. These really are not to be missed and a must for anyone's collection. The price this time is £5.00 for this professional set of four..... **Wavelength** No. 20, the February/March issue is now available. This edition contains the continuing 'Offshore Diary', which covers happenings on the Ross Revenge from late December until mid - February. Shortwave free radio news is featured, as well as U.K. medium wave and FM news from all parts of the country. Also featured in this 20 page A5 magazine is 'Twenty Years an Anorak', with Chris Cooper giving us an insight into some of his memories. Other sections included, are DIY radio, (which this time looks at test equipment), a review of the various info - lines, the Mike Ross interview (part 2) and a review of the latest Government proposals on the radio industry. The cost of Wavelength is 85p, including post and packing.

NEW ARRIVALS. **Freewave** No. 158 is now out, and is printed entirely in the Dutch language. This 24 page A5 magazine, contains news and features on the offshore scene, as well as items on other areas of the world of radio. This two weekly

magazine can be obtained from Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, The Netherlands..... **Play - DX** No.'s 494, 495 and 496 all arrived this week, and indicate that conditions were not the best recently in the 'solar activity report'. This can also be seen by the reduced number of DX loggings, especially on the trans - Atlantic skip. As usual, there is also plenty of news and information on how stations reply to reports. Written mostly in English, more information can be had from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Now Radio** issue 47 contains 32 x A5 pages of across the board radio news and information, on both legal and alternative radio. A large 6 page feature in this edition is called 'Tidy Up Your Act', and gives technical advice to un - licensed stations. Now Radio can be obtained from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **C.L.C.G. Magazin** No. 2/88 is packed full of information and logging on all parts of the radio spectrum, although as it is all printed in German, is mainly of use to those who can read the language. This monthly photocopied magazine can be obtained from C.L.C.G., Postfach 54 01 01, D-4100 Duisberg 11, West Germany..... Finally this week, we received **D.P.M. Newsletter, Issue 19**. An 8 page news-sheet covering events offshore, short wave and German (mainly) FM. Printed entirely in the German language, copies can be obtained for 1 x IRC, or DM .80, from Funkgemeinschaft-FG, Postfach 1130, D - 4154 Tonisverst 1, West Germany..... We nearly forgot this one, **Sounds Good** (in conjunction with RBL). A well presented and professionally laid out 40 page x A5 booklet, published monthly. Available free from RBL, South Kent's More Music Station, at 84 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent CT14 9JB, the magazine is packed with adverts associated with groups, bands, discos and of course, news from Radio Boulogne Littoral, all in the South Kent coastal area.

TAPE OFFER. One American, one London and one North Sea recording on offer this week. First off, and for Tape 166, we have a recording of John Charleston, from 25th February, on Chicago-based **WJMK-FM (Magic 104)**. The station plays mainly '60s American hits in stereo..... Tape 167 and from London, the super-pirate, **TKO** on 102.4MHz.FM in mono, from 27th January 1988. This station is heard over a very wide area indeed and this recording features more reggae and soul, with plenty of advertisements and promotions..... finally, Tape 168, from the North Sea features new jock, American 'Alex', from 27th February 1988. This is a Saturday afternoon show and was taped off 558kHz. in Harwich. All this week's tapes are C.90's and cost £2.00 each.

WANTED. Recording of the 'Tim Westwood' Hip-Hop programme, Fridays 12 midnight - 1 am on London's Capital Radio 95.8MHz., on a weekly basis. Will pay. Contact : M. Rhodes, c/o F.A.B., 38 Westgate Avenue, Parkhills, Bury, Lancs. (or phone 061 - 797 9452).

WANTED. A colleague in Finland is looking for some leaflets supplied by the manufacturers (JVC, Sony, Toshiba etc.) on multi-standard television receivers, which are available in this country. If anyone can get hold of anything, or already has something in this line, maybe he could contact Reijo Siivonen, P.O. Box 160, SF - 26101 Rauma, Finland.

FOR SALE. A set of 14 colour photos of the m.v. Communicator on the mud banks at Mistle. All external shots, but taken close up to the vessel. Price £8.00, which includes post and packing, payable by cash or postal order, to T. Cook, 80 Holly Bush Lane, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2RB.

WANTED. Recordings of the original Radio Nova (July '81 till March '86), or of the rest of the Nova empire, Kiss-FM, Magic 103, Nova TV, etc.... will buy or swap, contact Kevin on Dublin (01) 880572 or 78 Merville Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin.

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND. Not really 'free radio' as such, is the forthcoming **Radio Millenium** which is how RTE is celebrating Dublin's thousandth birthday. One of the most exciting features of the station will be its unique location, among the crowds who shop in what has become one of Europe's busiest shopping malls - Henry Street. Sited in the G.P.O. Arcade, Millenium 88 FM, as it will be known, should very quickly establish itself as a visible and accessible part of life in the city. The station does have several names which have been associated with Irish free radio for many years, including Declan Meehan, John Clark and Kieran Murray. The station is due to begin on St. Patricks Day (17th March), and will be transmitted on both the FM and

AM. The FM frequency of 88MHz. has already been tested, and the medium wave channel of 1278kHz. is well established on the air, as Dublin's relay of RTE Radio 2. Radio Millenium will be on the air for just 6 hours per day, and the rest of the transmission time will be filled by a relay of RTE Radio 2. The Monday to Thursday schedule will be as follows... 08:00 'After 8' with John Clark... 10:30 'Maxi's millenium love songs'... 11:30 'Jimmy Greeley's City Edition'... 14:00 to 08:00 Radio 2. On Friday morning, Declan Meehan replaces John Clark, but the rest of the day is the same. The Saturday and Sunday schedule is between 10:00 and 16:00. Robbie Irwin hosts the first three hours on both days. Saturday afternoon at 13:00, sees Declan Meehan with the Dublin Chart Show. At the same time on Sunday, Declan hosts 'Dublin's Dial an Oldies Show', in which requests can be instantly dealt with. News will be on the half hour, and read by Andrew Hanlon and Joyce Jackson. Finally on this subject, our old friend Kieran Murray is to become station co - ordinator at Radio Millenium. Kieran is well known to followers of Irish free radio, as he used to run the old F.R.C. Ireland and its associated magazine 'Sounds Alternative' back in the 1970's when the Irish radio scene was in its infancy. Kieran has also worked for Radio Carousel (both Dundalk and Navan services), Boyneside Radio (both Drogheda and Kells services) and most recently Liberties 104 in Dublin. He is well known to the shortwave fraternity for his former excellent free radio shows broadcast on Radio Rainbow International, in 1986 and 1987.

Co. DUBLIN. The big news in the city is **Sunshine 101's** amazing £20,000 giveaway, which was given away at 09:20 last Tuesday morning, when a cash call was made to the Firhouse district of south west Dublin. A very confident young man, sounding extremely young actually, answered the telephone with absolutely no hesitation.... 'I listen to the red hot sounds of Sunshine 101'. An astonished Nails Mahoney could hardly believe it and asked the boy if he knew who was calling. He replied in the negative and went on to say that his name was Stephen McCormack. He called his mother, Marion McCormack, who was even more flabbergasted when told what Stephen had done and all she could utter was.... 'you are joking'. When asked later what she would do with the money, Marion told Sunshine Radio that they had been saving up to attend her sister's wedding in Rome, later in the year. Now, of course, the saving was over. Nails thought they could even go on the honeymoon with them! Congratulations to all.

The only other news of note, is the fact that **KLAS 98.5** is about to close. The studios are going to be moved from Sutton Park, on the north side, to the city centre, and along with other involvement, another station will evolve, using a more uptempo format, no doubt in order to attract the advertisers which KLAS failed to do.

Finally, on DX - ing the AM band recently, it has been noticed that only one station occupies the 1359kHz. slot, and that emanating from Carlow. Apparently, **Tallaght Community Radio** are only on FM, 91.8MHz., at present.

Co. MONAGHAN. **Northern Star Radio** announced on the morning of 3rd March, that they would be moving from 999kHz. to 1116kHz. within a couple of days. This was assumed to be because of the transmissions from neighbour, **Kiss-FM**, on the adjacent channel of 1008kHz. The latter meanwhile have taken on former ERI jock, Owen Barry, along with ex Nova, Lawrence John and Roland Burke.

Co. LONGFORD. Rather good conditions in the week, yielded a surprise for us, **Longford Community Radio**, on 1071kHz., but so very weak. Apparently, they are only using a 20 foot pole with a wire strung over it, so this accounts for the extremely low power being used. They are currently operating 09:00 till 06:00 (industrial hours, says, Sean Coyne, and proceeds to refer to the station as Longford Industrial Radio!).

Co. CAVAN. Taking advantage of these rather good reception conditions during the week, we tried to locate **Breffi Regional Radio** on 1170kHz., but to no avail. The station was still absent from this channel following the complete collapse of their original radio mast. A letter in during the week from the area, told us to watch 666kHz. and a report on the Radio West show this morning mentioned 657kHz., being heard on low power with tones, etc., but as yet, we have nothing to report (657kHz. is rather bad here with a massive BBC 'local' and **B.L.B Community Radio** from just south of Dublin.. We believe Breffi can be heard on FM over a very wide area, from their mountain top FM site, which

remained unscathed after the recent February storm. Again, taking advantage of the conditions, we listened in to 'the big one', Cavan Community Radio on 819kHz. Again, masses of adverts were noted.

Co. MEATH. Boyneside Radio are poised to move into Navan, it appears. They are moving into studios in Railway Road, with a full service, rather than a relay of the Drogheda service, although, no doubt, the news will be carried, via a link from Drogheda. The services of a former Radio Carousel presenter have been acquired, we are told.

Co. WESTMEATH. Midway Radio, reported last week as having moved into Mullingar, were officially opened on Friday last, with top entertainment artists and local civic dignitaries in attendance. The station broadcasts on 999kHz.AM, and 98.1 and 104MHz.FM.

MIDWAY RADIO ANNOUNCE

The Official Opening of our new studios at

**The Town Centre
Shopping Mall,
Mullingar
On Friday next,
March 4**

*Special guest of honour
will be the one and only*

Joe Dolan



*who will perform the opening ceremony at 3 pm
Call and meet Joe and other celebrities and
sample the friendly atmosphere of*

**Midway Radio - It's
YOUR Local Radio
Station**

Co. CORK. As mentioned above, Owen Barry has now left Radio ERI. As a result, their current line-up now looks like this..... 07:00 Jim Lockhart, 12:00 George Talbot, 19:00 Steve O'Neill, 22:00 Mark Edwards, 03:00 Mark Lawrence. Five hour shows are rather long, we think.

Co. WATERFORD. Congratulations to ABC Radio who celebrated their 6th Birthday this past week. An outside broadcast from one of the hotels was planned, with numerous prizes to be given away. The station can be heard far and wide on 1026kHz.AM.

abc RADIO

**36 BARRONSTRAND STREET, WATERFORD CITY,
IRELAND**

Tel (051) 75687 (Sales) 75620 (Studios)

THE OFFSHORE STATIONS. Still no word from Israel, maybe the postal people are playing up again?

m.v. COMMUNICATOR. Word reaches via the info-line, telling us that the ship is about to be moved to Kent to be scrapped. At present, it is run into a mud bank at Mistley, with just Mike Barrington on board, looking after it. Most of the equipment has been removed, with the exception of the transmitters, which are understood to be still intact.

RADIO CAROLINE. We left the station last week, uncertain as to what had happened to the shortwave signal, and also worried by the impending northerly storms which were approaching. In fact, on 558kHz., programmes were heard all the way through Sunday night (28th February) with Mike Watts filling in, on the 01:00 to 05:00 slot. Into Chris Kennedy's show after 05:00, the station suddenly cut off mid - record at 05:49 on Monday morning. The seas were very heavy at this time, and we feared the worst for the new aerial system. No signals were heard all day on Monday, but when we tuned in on Tuesday morning, the station was back on the air. Since then, Caroline seems to have been on the air most of the week without too many problems, although the power seems to have been varying a little. The line-up is currently... 05:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 Robbie Jay... 13:00 Steve Conway... 17:00 Steve Masters... 21:00 Alex. The station closed at 01:00 on Tuesday and Wednesday, but on Thursday night again went 24 hours. This time it was Alex who programmed through from 21:00 until 03:00, and Steve Masters between 03:00 and 05:00. Early on Saturday (5th) and Sunday (6th) between 01:00 and 05:00, Mike watts again sat in to fill the 24 hour schedule.

On Wednesday afternoon, Steve Conway seemed to be getting a few visitors going past the ship. A greeting was given out to those aboard one of the Olau ferries, and also the air force who flew past 'only inches away from the big red ship' at 13:50. Later on that afternoon, we tuned in to 6210kHz. to find the shortwave service back on the air once again. This seems to have continued almost non - stop since then, except for a brief period of an hour on Thursday morning, when generator failure shut down the station altogether at 08:59. In fact, 558kHz returned just a few minutes later, but the shortwave took longer. Engineers were working on deck with 'angle grinders' according to Steve Conway on Thursday afternoon, as he was complaining about 'flying bolts' bouncing down the corridors.

Sunday morning arrived, and at around 11:05 we received a call from John, in Amersham, Bucks., informing us that the shortwave service had split away from the 558 programmes, and tests were being announced. We duly tuned in, and Mike Watts was heard with test announcements. Continuous music was aired, with announcements in several languages, and the station closed down at 12:00 in order to receive reception reports from other operators in that band. They then resumed the tests, until 13:30, closing down with 'On My Way back Home' by New Riders of the Purple Sage, and 'Imagine' by John Lennon. Again they announced they would be listening out for reception reports. Five stations were heard to call them up including P.F.B.S., WLR, Radio Atlantis, Radio Freedom, and WBN. Others were heard but were a little weak to identify. When the shortwave service returned after 14:00, it was back to a relay of 558kHz. At around 14:35, Alex gave a 'thank you' message to those operators who has given reports to the shortwave tests.

As well as the usual Lotto 6/49, adverts this week have been for the Brighton Record Fair, and the Caroline Rock Show, and Who's Really Who book.

An interesting letter this week arrived from Barry Collins of Coventry, who has a few relevant technical comments on the re - emergence of shortwave transmissions from the North Sea. "In 1970 'splatter' from RNI's 6210kHz. broadcasts caused severe interference to 6215kHz., which is a secondary international distress channel used to supplement the main 2182kHz. emergency frequency. To put it plainly, 6215.5kHz. is an emergency channel, and whilst land - based pirates using a few (hundred) watts on a frequency close to it, is one thing, an offshore station using several kilowatts thereabouts is another, hence RNI's interference, and the resulting jamming of its 6210kHz. transmissions by the Norwegian coastal station, Rogaland Radio, in an effort to force the offshore station onto a channel further away from the emergency frequency. Subsequently, RNI moved to 6205kHz. whereupon the jamming ceased. Caroline's (hopefully temporary) use of 6210kHz. raises exactly the same interference problems to 6215.5kHz. as did RNI, and gives the DTI 'threat to life accusations' an element of truth, which they have so far lacked, as well as inviting the risk of jamming from maritime coastal radio stations. (The French navy station at Brest has already occupied the new (for it) frequency of 6240kHz. for some months in order to clear the channel of regular pirates, such as Ireland's Radio Rainbow - this is the origin of the

ADVERTISEMENT.

HELLO RADIO 390 LISTENERS OF 21 YEARS AGO

This coming July will be the 21st anniversary of the closure of RADIO 390 based on Red Sands Towers. I would like to know how many former listeners might like to have a get together and remember this station which was unique in offshore broadcasting.

This note merely seeks to see what interest if any might be generated by some special event. Even the nature of the event is open to ideas from listeners, but the following suggestions would seem to be front runners:-

A reunion dinner for former staff and listeners

A trip out to Red Sands

The event could be augmented by the preparation and production of any of the following:-

A special feature on the station to be prepared for publication

An updated history of the station on cassette featuring more programme extracts than exist on existing material

A digest on the careers of station staff since closure

An anniversary photo collection

I would be prepared to help organise an event should the demand exist, but would prefer some help. Since the quite superb DRIFTBACK 20 last Summer which more than raised the tempo on Free Radio, I sense that others would like to see more events to look forward to. If that is the case, then special themes, as in this case dedicated to a particular station, could be an attractive idea.

If you are interested in attending or helping to organise something on the above lines, please drop me a line to:-

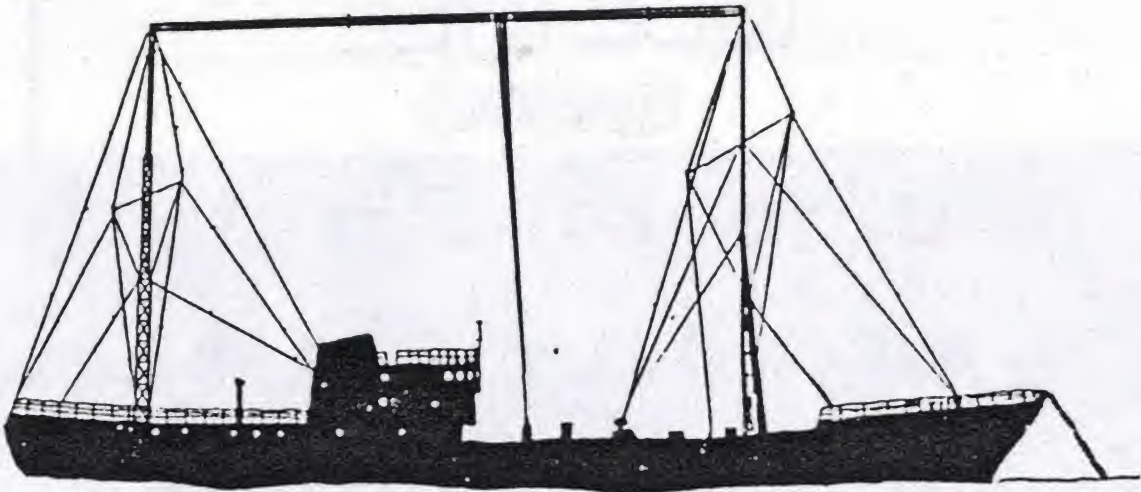
10 Clayton Walk
Little Chalfont
A M E R S H A M
Buckinghamshire HP7 9NT

At this stage I just want an idea of likely reponse. Don't expect a reply by return or even at all! You will hear from me if there is a firm base of interest on which to plan. All that is required at this stage is your name and address, and if possible an evening telephone number. This personal information will only be used for the purposes of contact in connection with the above, and will remain confidential.

Should anyone out there wish to speak to me direct, I would be happy to take your calls in the evening on 02404-3056 any Wednesday or Sunday evening between 7 and 9 o'clock. I await your response with interest.

Christopher J Cooper
March 1988

strong morse code on this channel, comprising the continual repetition of the letter FUE, the naval transmitter call-sign)



Drawing courtesey of the Caroline Movement.

LAND-BASED STATIONS...U.K.

BRISTOL. Following the raid on B.A.D. Radio, the immensely popular black music free radio station, activity has suddenly quietened back down in the city. Only newcomers **Radio for the People (Radio F.T.P.)** on 104MHz. in mono, have been heard lately, and then sometimes only intermittantly. **Radio F.T.P.** were heard at just after 18:00, on Thursday 18th February, with 'Master M' presenting through until 20:00, when the 'Playboy Crew' were on the air for their 11th daily show since the station opened on 7th February. Unfortunately a few jingles were distorting quite badly, and a varying intensity hum could be heard during times of speech and quieter tracks of music. Promotions for two weekend programmes "Children's Hour" and "Gospel Hour", were played heavily. The station programmed as normal on Friday 19th, and on Saturday afternoon, they were again back on the air, with the advertised 'Children's Hour', which was heard between 16:00 and 17:00. A diversifying of format was noticed, with seperate shows for rap and reggae, along with one called 'The Rare Groove Show'. Sunday (21st) saw yet more special programmes, with the following line - up... 16:00 The Gospel Show... 17:00 The Hip Hop / Funk Show... 19:00 The Senior Citizen Hour... 20:00 The Reggae Show with the Playboy Crew... 22:00 Master C... 00:00 Closedown. The Senior Citizen Hour was reported to be particularly good, and featured a lot of traditional Caribbean Calypso music. **Radio F.T.P.** was heard again during the week from Monday to Thursday (22nd - 25th) with normal programming. Their current announced schedule reads Monday to Friday from 17:00 until midnight, and weekends from 16:00 until 02:00.

There was no sign of either B.A.D. Radio or 103.5 FM, that weekend (19th - 21st), the latter whom have not been heard for some time. However the next weekend (26th - 28th) B.A.D. Radio triumphantly returned to the airwaves. They were first noted on Saturday afternoon from 15:00, on the new frequency of 105.2MHz. This move is possibly due to interference allegations to local mobile services, on their old frequency of 106.95MHz. They were announcing 'bigger, better and B.A.D.er programmes', and indeed, despite a few blank carriers, the station is sounding much better and travelling further than before the recent raid. An address has been given out of P.O. Box 539, Bristol BS99 1NH, and any dedications should arrive the Thursday before the programme. Businesses are now being encouraged to advertise with the station, and a telephone number is announced for this purpose. Strangely, whilst B.A.D. radio had returned to the air, **Radio F.T.P.** remained silent all weekend.

BEDFORDSHIRE. News of a new station reaches us from these parts. Identifying as **Network Radio**, the station has been heard between 19:00 and 23:00 nightly on 105.1MHz., from the Luton area. Mostly reggae and sould music has been noted, and the power of the signal was rather low.

BERKSHIRE. West of London now, and on Sunday evening last, 21st, a new station was active in the Maidenhead area. Identifying as **JB - FM**, the station was heard on 94.6MHz., announcing 94.4MHz. A mailing address of JB - FM, c/o Doug, 80 City Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B16 0HQ was given out. Previous broadcasts were mentioned too, but this is the first we have heard of this one.

ESSEX. Last weekend, two stations were heard on the air in this county. **Radio Lola** were actually on the air last Sunday, and could be heard almost to the outskirts of London, despite operating to the Chelmsford area. Their frequency was 105MHz. Further South, **Canvey Radio North** (90.8)

were blasting out with high power as usual, however later in the afternoon, they had to leave the air rather quickly. DTI officials were seen in the vicinity of the station's studio, after having sneaked past two lookouts. Luckily they were seen and the station closed down. They hope to be back soon, from a new location. It seems that every area had their fair share of DTI activity in the last few weeks. **Canvey Community Radio**, their sister station, is still not back on the air.

RBL NEWS FEBRUARY 1988

For any of you who weren't sure, RBL is a legal, commercial radio station operating from the French coast. On Saturday, Sunday and Monday evenings RBL's International Service takes to the air on 91.6 Mhz in glorious FM Stereo.

We play a mixture of classic oldies and quality hits, in fact if you want to hear only the best in rock and pop then there is no alternative to RBL.

Take a listen and you'll discover why more and more people, who want to hear plenty of good music on the radio, are tuning to the English Language, International Service of Radio Boulogne Littoral, every week.

Well, 1988 has brought some new names, and voices, to 91.6 FM.

Graham Taylor was the first to join us in January, and he comes from a hospital radio background. Graham has spent some time running his own mobile disco and says that a real incentive to join RBL, was the fact that he wouldn't have to play any more "knees-up" records at Wedding Receptions!

Next into the RBL Studios came Tony Richards, bringing with him a wealth of experience gleaned working in the US Radio. Tony has only recently returned from the USA and takes over Tim Stewerts old Monday evening slot at 8.30pm.

By the way, listen out for the return of "The Phrase that Pays" where you could win £91.6 during Tony's show.

Another new name to RBL is Dave Richards. Dave is already a seasoned radio presenter, having "Served time" aboard Radio Caroline out on the North Sea. Dave hosts the Sunday 11.30 to 01.00 slot, so why not give him a listen if you fancy some late night entertainment.

These new names mean a few changes to the current RBL schedules, but uou can be sure of one thing: Our Music Guarantee: RBL WILL PLAY MORE MUSIC THAN ANY OTHER FM RADIO STATION...

So this is how Saturday, Sunday and Monday nights look on RBL:-

SATURDAY	9.30 - 11.00	Jeff Johnson & Power
		91.6
	11.00 - 00.30	RBL REMEMBERS oldies with Pete Simester
	00.30 - 02.00	Graham Taylor
SUNDAY	02.00 - 05.00	RBL Night-Trax
	10.00 - 11.30	Martin Standen
	11.30 - 01.00	Dave Richards
	01.00 - 02.30	Martin Turner
MONDAY	02.30 - 05.00	RBL Night-Trax
	7.00 - 8.30	Mark Daniels
	8.30 - 10.00	Tony Richards
	10.00 - 11.30	Mark Allen
	11.30 - 01.00	Paul Graham
	01.00 - 05.00	RBL Night-Shift

If you haven't discovered RBL yet, here's where to find us on your radio..

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THE SOUTH COAST. Radio Atlantis (105.3) continue to broadcast one Sunday every month, and was last heard on 21st February at 19:00. Presenters heard on this occasion were Nick Thomas and Johnny Diamond. The station is the same as that which broadcasts on shortwave.

A.B.C. Radio (105.3) has had a lot of staff problems, and so has been off the air for approximately six weeks. They will be broadcasting again this evening (6th March) from 19:00 until 23:00, with 70 watts from a very high location near Eastbourne. A.B.C. are currently looking for a few more presenters / helpers, so if you live within a reasonable travelling distance and you can help out with the station once a month, then please send a short demo tape and details to 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN23 7RT.

Also broadcasting to the South Coast area is **Radio Boulogne Littoral**. The information re-printed above comes from the February 1988 edition of Sound's Good, the free magazine available in the Kent area.

SOUTH EAST - GENERAL. South Surrey Monitoring give us a few snippets of information about station heard, but not necessarily broadcasting in the South east of England. **The Voice of Love (1615kHz or 1620kHz)** is a Dutch based station with approximately 250 / 500 watts. No address has been noted. Often good music of the 60's and 70's is played, and it is very reminiscent of early RNI / Caroline. They are one of the strongest Dutch 'pirates'. Recent transmissions have been marred by modulation problems.

RNI - Radio Nighthawk International, the English counterpart of the Voice of Love is currently off the air. They were last noted with an extensive afternoon / night-time broadcast on 1287kHz, on 21st November. Sadly, the 600 watt transmitter and sound processing gear was extensively damaged in a storm, whilst in storage. They expect to return in the Autumn. letters to BM Nectar will be returned to sender.

Radio Neptune (1566kHz) were noted on the air on Sunday 21st February 1988, at 12:25. This must be one of the few medium wave stations to be left operating in the country outside of the Merseyside area, a far cry from the 1970's when FM stations were in the minority. Radio Neptune broadcasts to the Hertfordshire area.

LONDON. The DTI seem to have been having a field day, each day this week. We hear that almost without exception, all stations have been missing at one time or another during the week. **LWR (92.2)** who we understand lost at least three transmitters last weekend, but had returned to the air by Sunday, have again been missing for much of the week, suggesting more problems. Both **Time Radio (103.8)** and **Fresh FM (103.3)** who had similar problems to LWR last week, are reported to be on much reduced power, and indeed, Fresh were missing on both Friday and Saturday evening, but had returned by this morning. Only **RJR (90.0)** and **City Radio (94.5)** appear to have not been hit, although they of course could have been, and returned very quickly. The **RJR** signal is reported to be extremely good at the moment. Also with an exceptional signal is **TKO (102.4)** who were off the air for a short time mid - week. They are now even stronger than ever, and can be heard on a car radio with no problems some 40 miles outside of the city centre. **Hits FM (105.5)** returned to the airwaves yesterday, in the morning. They also were putting out one of their best ever signals. However by late afternoon, they too had disappeared suggesting yet another victim had fallen to the DTI. Later on that evening (5th March) **M.R.S. Radio** were noted on this frequency (105.5) playing the usual mixture of black music. **Raiders FM** were again off the air, but this was due to their engineer not being available until next week. It was probably a godsend for them though, looking at the massive amount of problems all the other stations have had. They hope to return this week. **Playback FM** were heard last night on 93.2MHz. **Rock FM (94.3)** seem to have missed all the problems, and at the time of writing, are still on the air with their regular Sunday broadcasts.

Last week we forgot to mention that **London Rock** was once again back on the air on 89.5MHz., however they have not been monitored as yet this weekend.

As a footnote to this week's London news, **SINA Radio**, the Asian station in Southall, were featured in a television programme called **Network East**, which was broadcast last week. Other stations were also featured, but **SINA** seemed to be at the centre of the discussions on Asian 'pirate radio'.

We look forward to hearing from a well tanned Sid again, in next week's report.

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Radio Veronica in Bradford tell us the reason they have ceased transmissions is to save all their neighbours and other nearby residents the inconvenience of being knocked up and got out of bed at 1:00 o'clock in the morning, by free radio enthusiasts who enquire, 'is this Radio Veronica?' This is most unfortunate, it is bad enough the DTI, but for over enthusiastic anoraks to cause a station to close down is most annoying.

Last Sunday night (28th February) saw the return in Leeds of **ABC FM** on their old frequency of 105.2MHz. This return was much quicker than previously, and follows the raid of three weeks ago. They programmed into the night, and were heard up until Wednesday. A fire bomb attack in Leeds that night, co - incidentally happened the same time as **ABC** went off the air. They were not heard again until Saturday, so it could have been that this incident was in their locality. All three 'black music' stations were back on the air again over this weekend. **'New' Horizon FM** were on their usual frequency of 91.8MHz., in stereo from Friday afternoon, and **Music City Radio** were also in their normal location, 90.3Mhz but in mono, commencing around 18:00.

With **ABC FM** off the air in Leeds, it was possible to hear **W.L.N.G. (104.9)** in the city, if only with a weak signal. The station are putting out a good signal however, as it is reaching as far as Chesterfield. They were on the air on both Tuesday 1st, and Thursday 3rd March. They opened up at 20:31 with Rick Sellars (pop/oldies), 21:33 Mark Crosby (rock), 22:03 Steve Wilson (Dance Music), 22:36 Closedown. Thursday had a different line - up with Tony King at 20:28, then at 21:30 was a.o.r. with Stuart Graham. Closedown was at 22:30. The four adverts mentioned last week, were again aired, and repeated each 15 minutes.

A telephone call from **N.L.V. Radio (104.9 - mono)** in Keighley, informed us that in fact they are only running a 5 day schedule, Monday to Friday, and not a full week as we mentioned previously. Saturday and Sunday's are missed out as the operators have other commitments. Plenty of adverts can be heard on the station, as well as community notices for this town, which is not covered too well by other local legal stations. Recent job advertisements aired on the station, have brought employment to at least 4 of their listeners, so they are certainly proving themselves as a useful public service.

In South Yorkshire, Rebel Radio (105.4) was on the air on Wednesday night (3rd). As usual, Scooter Jones was programming with a mixture of chart and oldies. At 21:37, the transmitter cut mid - record, and after numerous attempts it would not stay on, so no reason was heard mentioned for the problems. Finally, although in Nottingham, **Heatwave 105** (105.1) can be heard in South Yorkshire. Reception strength has altered somewhat in the week, but presenters were heard saying on - air that some people mind find reception difficulties, so it could be that changes in site were happening.

CHESHIRE(?). The religious station on 96.3MHz was again heard last Sunday, as well as last night (Saturday). Last week, it was announced that programmes were being broadcast from the Irish Republic with 25kW of power. A female voice normally gives out the announcement, both at the beginning and end of the broadcasts, as well as in between programmes. Last night the following was heard announced... "Outlook 96.3 broadcasts religious programmes for you each Saturday, Sunday and Monday evenings at 8p.m. Please remember, that Outlook can only continue with your support. Please write to any of our programmes direct, or to us at Outlook, Holmes Chapel PDO, Cheshire CW4 8AE."

MANCHESTER. Just two stations have been reported to us this week, as operating from this area. The seven day operation of I.C.R. continues to Moss Side, without any major problems on a frequency around 103.5MHz. Sometimes they are noted just below this channel (103.475), and sometimes just above (103.55). This suggests that they have two transmitters, rather than one varying in frequency as previously thought. Reggae and other black music is featured on this community radio station.

W.B.L.S. have again been putting out a very good signal on 102.375MHz., although sometimes the music drowns out the speech of the presenter. They were noted giving out an address in the Moss Side area of Manchester. A telephone number was also announced, but this appears to be one of the cell-net type. When on the air yesterday, they were giving out a schedule until 02:00. The format of this station is soul /dance music etc.

RENFREWSHIRE. Two operations were on the air during the week around the Glasgow area. Once again **Radio Mercury** (96.1) completed another successful week's transmissions without any problems. They continue operating on a Wednesday and Thursday from 19:00 until 22:00, and on Friday and Saturday from 19:00 - 21:00. Their address remains as mentioned in previous weeks, and tee shirts are still available at several outlets in the city. **Northside Community Radio** (103.3) made it to the air on Wednesday evening, although due to their low power, can only be heard in their intended service area of North Glasgow.

MERSEYSIDE. Following the raid on **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) a week last Friday (26th February), the station remained off the air until Monday morning (29th February). We first noticed they were back on the air at around 10:00, although reports indicate that they commenced at sometime around 09:00. The programming went as normal, throughout the morning, and we did not hear any references to what had happened the previous Friday. Announcements were made however, indicating that due to the loss in broadcasting hours at the weekend, **Radio Merseywaves** would be on the air for the rest of the week. We were still monitoring at around 13:15 on Monday, but then had to go out, and on our return at 16:55 found RMW off the air. It appears that the DTI were in fact in the area, and luckily for RMW 'familiar DTI faces' were spotted by a member of another station, approaching the Merseywaves transmission site. The story then seems to get a little confused, and from what we understand the man who spotted the DTI, also managed to make a quick getaway with the RMW transmitter at around 13:45, storing it in a safe place until the DTI had disappeared from the district. Burt is now back in possession of the rig, and the station recommenced transmissions later in the week. Whilst all this was going on, **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz.) appeared to have another trouble free weekend, and could still be heard at 17:00, when the foreign station began to cause reception problems. Nothing was heard from the area until Thursday, when 1242kHz came alive that morning with **Radio Merseywaves**, who were again announcing that they were again going to attempt a 7 days per week schedule. Station owner Burt Williams, hosted a programme this afternoon, and made reference to the DTI taking a transmitter two weeks ago. As a result, he said that they

were currently broadcasting on reduced power until the current threat from the DTI 'robbers' has ceased. **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz) operated their normal weekend schedule, however on Friday, their signal seemed to be well down, and we had difficulty receiving them due to the Irish station **Telstar Community Radio**, who operate on the same frequency. Plenty of adverts can be heard on the station, and more seem to be being added each week. Rick Dane and Steven Bishop are still the only presenters we have heard whilst listening in the daytime.

With the demise of **North Coast Radio** due to various problems, **Radio Julie** is now understood to have returned to the air, broadcasting as before, on FM only, 104.8MHz. Their current schedule is not known at this present time. Low power is understood to be currently in use, which explains why we were unable to receive it here in Blackpool. They were reported to have been on from mid - day yesterday, and were again heard this morning, locally on the Wirral. Also on the FM band, last night, was heard several hours of continuous hip-hop / rap music on 105.4MHz. From directions taken, this seemed to be emanating from the South Wirral / Liverpool area, but no announcements were heard.

Storton Community Radio were again putting out a very strong signal today on 1026kHz, along with good audio levels, and were bang on 1026kHz, which made listening at this distance quite pleasant. When we tuned in mid - afternoon however, the station didn't seem to be on the air. On listening later on, they had returned, but had a few problems with what sounded like feedback. This was soon sorted out however. They have a different mailing address, to the one we published two weeks ago, but unfortunately we couldn't catch it all, due to being slow off the mark with the pen, and then with darkness falling, foreign stations causing interference. Hopefully, we will have it in full, next week.

Veronica 104 (104.75) made its now regular fire up at 15:00 this afternoon. Despite having studio damage in recent storms, their signal is still very strong, and reaches this area quite well using an external FM aerial, a distance of some 50 miles.

MIDLANDS. All stations were on air as last week. **Enterprise FM** were noted off for a time mid - week, but this was due to them changing frequency from 90.9MHz., up the band a little to 91.8MHz. The distance between them and other BBC stations is now a little larger.



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SHORTWAVE STATIONS.

Steve Most informs us, that in his recent court case on 10th February 1988, Medway Magistrates fined him a total of £115 on five counts, only two of which were actually for operating the shortwave transmitter of Radio Pamela. Two charges were in fact dropped, which were for installing, and using a medium wave transmitter. The studio equipment was ordered to be given back to Steve, who says that once it has been returned, he can get back to normal operations on 6224kHz. Items confiscated were the shortwave transmitter, a 49MHz. handset and two CB rigs.

Log for Sunday 6th March 1988.

6210kHz...RADIO CAROLINE, at 11:15gmt.
6218kHz...PREMIER RADIO INT., at 10:36gmt.
6224kHz...RADIO PAMELA INT., at 10:10gmt.
6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT., at 12:00gmt.
6240kHz...W.L.R., at 12:01gmt.
6240kHz...BOYNESIDE RADIO, at 13:15gmt.
6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 09:01gmt.
6271kHz...RAINBOW RADIO GERMANY, at 09:24gmt.
6271kHz...RADIO MARABU, at 10:55gmt.
6275kHz...UNID., at 11:22gmt.
6280kHz...4IFR, at 10:00gmt.
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 10:47gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 12:44gmt.
6305kHz...INDIGO RADIO, at 09:15gmt.
6305kHz...RIVERSIDE RADIO INT., at 10:07gmt.
6310kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 10:59gmt.
6317kHz...CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD, at 10:57gmt.
6317kHz...W.L.R., at 12:41gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 11:30gmt.
7374kHz...RADIO AQUARIUS INT., at 10:24gmt.
7430kHz...W.L.R., at 09:15gmt.

Conditions this morning were average, with us not being able to receive many stations at all here in Blackpool. Many thanks to listeners in the Midlands, Norfolk and the Channel Islands who kindly telephoned us their logs on (0253) 882017.

The interesting spot on the band today was around 6210kHz., where Radio Caroline split from its regular relay of 558kHz, in order to conduct tests from a separate studio. This occurred at around 11:00. At two points in the broadcasts, they closed down for 30 minutes in order to receive instant reception reports from land-based operators. As a result, several stations appeared on the air on 6210kHz, whom we haven't listed in the regular log, as they were only on for a few seconds at a time. These stations included Radio Freedom (East Midlands), Radio Atlantis (Kent), P.F.B.S., W.L.R. (Dublin), and BFN (North London). More were probably on air, but these were the ones who identified clearly. The separate tests went back to a relay of 558kHz shortly after 14:00.

The unidentified signal on 6275kHz was playing tapes of the Chicago station Magic 104 (WJMK) and did not identify itself.

Riverside Radio were putting out the best signal we have heard this morning. This was also the opinion of other loggers. Test transmissions were being announced with a 30 watt transmitter, on a couple of frequencies, but we only logged the 6305kHz outlet. Reports should be sent to Joe Vincent, P.O. Box 39, Waterford, Eire.

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(FRANCE)

The WEEKLY

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 202.....13th March 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

There is never a dull moment in the world of free radio, and this week is no exception. Friday saw the sudden closure of major Dublin station, Energy 103, as well as hints of further delay with the impending radio legislation in that country. This week also saw activity against Merseyside's and London's unlicensed operators by the Department of Trade and Industry officials, reach 'fever pitch'. Stations were going down at an unbelievable rate, making logging of the band, even for the hardened anorak, very difficult. After the end of this purge, it will be interesting to see how many, and which, of the seven day operations will survive. Already, one of the regulars for the past few years, LWR, has been missing for over a week, after an unknown number of transmitters had been taken. These are days certainly reminiscent of the final closure of Radio Jackie back in February 1984, when a sustained attack by the DTI finally forced this popular station off the air.

March is certainly a month to remember for fans of Radio Caroline. It was back in March 1964, that the m.v. Fredericia (known as the m.v. Caroline), sailed from Greenore in Eire, after being fitted out, and dropped anchor to begin broadcasts to a popular music starved British public. Four years later, in the early hours of March 3rd 1968, both the North and South ships were boarded and towed to Holland by the Wijsmuller Company, who were owed money for tendering. The station returned to the air in 1972, but only from the former south ship, m.v. Mi Amigo, which suffered in severe sea conditions on 19th March 1980, and finally sank in the early hours of the following morning, after the crew had been heroically rescued by the crew of a lifeboat. Returning from the ashes from a new vessel, the m.v. Ross Revenge in August 1983, this month, March 1988 makes the 'Lady' now 24 years old, and even after the disaster of losing the huge mast last November, she is once again growing stronger every day. Whatever your own thoughts on the future viability of offshore radio, there is certainly something special surrounding Radio Caroline, which always brings the station back to life after a major disaster.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS costs just 20p and is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday from Blackpool. To become one of our many postal subscribers, the following rates are current.... First Class (U.K.) and to E.E.C. countries (including Eire), 40p..... Second Class (U.K. only), 35p..... to non-E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Switzerland, Finland and Norway), 45p..... Elsewhere (via Air Mail), 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish, at the above appropriate rate.

PAYMENTS: We will accept any form of payment, but it must be remembered that some methods, although not apparent, can work out quite expensive. One very cheap way is stamps. We will accept any amount in 13p and 18p denominations. The Irish subscribers may also send stamps, but only 28p ones in their case. Girobank transfer is free for many foreign customers. Our number is 12 141 6909 and the account is in the name of R. & B.F. Johnston. I.R.C.'s are expensive to buy and are only valued at 22p, but we will accept them, all the same. The sending of coins in the post is very risky. Finally, will those sending cheques please make sure they are signed.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT and reach the right people to read your message. A few lines is free to subscribers only. A whole page within costs just £20.00, a half page, £11.00 and a quarter, £6.00. This will then be posted out to almost 800 subscribers at home and abroad. Simply send us a copy of what you wish to see in print (on white paper) and include the necessary remittance and leave the rest to us.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO-LINE will keep you informed of happenings in between reports. Call (0795) 511118 and hear a three minute, regularly up-dated message. If you have news for us, then ring (0795) 511119 and leave your message after the whistle tone, but please do not leave any messages about subscriptions or merchandise as this line is operated from the south of the country. The latter enquiries should be directed to Blackpool, the telephone number of which is (0253) 882017.

'COMMUNICATE '88' is this year's free radio convention to be held in Blackpool on 24th September, at the Winter Gardens Conference Centre. The organisers are **M.O.A. Promotions**, (M.O.A. standing for Monitor, Offshore Echo's and Anoraks U.K.). A hand out will be available soon, and will give full details of the event. In the meantime, we are asking everyone to write in with their ideas of what they would like to see, hear or generally expect. Now is the time, as this is your convention, so, how do you want us to do it? Accomodation, especially near at hand, is going to be very hard to find, nearer the time and two nights minimum is going to be the norm. Please feel free to write to us for an accomodation list and map of the town, with main venues marked.

TAPE OFFER. First off this week, a brief return to New York for Tape 169 which takes us back to early December last year, and a chance to hear two of the smaller FM stations audible in the city. Side one features **WEVD-FM** in stereo, which is classed as a 'foreign language' station, although all this particular extract of a breakfast show, is in English, and the music format is 'old time'. Turning over, you will find **WDHA-FM**, recorded in mono, from across the river in New Jersey. This station announces itself as the 'rock of New Jersey'. Tape 170 brings us more up to date now and from 2nd March 1988, we travel a little away from the 'Big Apple', to Waterbury, Connecticut, and **WWYZ-FM**. Although licensed to this town, the station does cover the Hartford and New Haven market area. The format is 'light rock', the programme is afternoon 'drive time', and the recording was made in stereo. Back to Europe, and Eire in particular for Tape 171, which gives you another chance to hear **'Hits 954'** from Limerick City. Our first offer from

this station was in its early days last Summer, but this latest ones shows how Hits has developed with both adverts and jingles in the last eight months. Presenter for this breakfast show from 2nd March, is Kevin Nelson. All cassettes are 90 minutes long and cost just £2.00 each. Available is a complete listing of 'tape offers' from 1 to 171, plus one or two 'specials'. Please feel free to request a copy.

NEW MERCHANDISE: New this week, although mentioned in advance last week, is our latest photo set from the North Sea...**'Ross Revenge - The New Masts'**. Four 7" x 5" colour prints, taken by FotoFlite of Ashford, Kent, from the air (just!), showing the two new masts. These are four of the nicest, clearest and most colourful shots we have ever seen, hence the reason we are offering four, rather than two. Demand has been quite staggering and we must point out that anyone wishing for a set, really ought to order as soon as possible, as the offer is a 'one off'. We do not hold any negatives, in other words, so we cannot re-print, hence once stocks are exhausted, then that is that..... Not yet available, but expected before the month is out... **Offshore Echo's Issue No. 70.** We understand that the printer in France has increased the price yet again. Advance orders may be placed at the old price of £1.90, provided that those ordering realise that it may be a couple of weeks, or more, before you receive it.

NEW ARRIVALS: **Short Wave Newsletter, Issue 36.** 6 x A4 sides featuring 'Bandscan', 'Free Radio', 'Schedules' and 'Long Wave'. As usual, well presented and costing 70p from SWN, 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH..... **Play-DX, Issue 497.** The regular arrival from Italy with 6 x A4 sides, four in English, the latter two in Spanish. Mainly long distance logs in this issue, details from Dario Monferini,

via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Now Radio Reports, Issue 12.** We are sure that we are correct this time, when we say that this is the final issue of 'Reports'. Now Radio becomes weekly from next week. 16 pages of across the board radio news here. Details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Radiotelex, Issue 119.** A day late this time, but as always, worth waiting for. A must for SW fans, with logs and news from that band. Details: Radiotelex, Postfach 10 37 71, D-2800 Bremen 1, West Germany..... **'Aerial Techniques'** from 11 Kent Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH12 2EH. A smart, glossy covered, A5 booklet with 24 pages, offering all sorts of things for sale, in the line of aerials. This follows our recent article on FM receiving. This man is most helpful and can be obtained on (0202) 73832. Aerials, rotors, amps, etc. and much more. Send off today for your free copy (mention A-UK)..... finally, we received a promo sheet from Thomas Witkenkamp, In Der Haul 14, D - 4730 Ahlen, West Germany, advertising 'The Free Radio Tape', commencing April '88, to be published every month. Contents will include news, station recordings, interviews, comedy and of course, music. Contributors are needed for this new project. A sample tape for March '88 is available now for £1 or \$2, from the above address, along with further information, etc.

GENERAL: Following our recent article on FM receiving, we are pleased to read that a number of people have actually tried what we suggested and have got some very good results. For the benefit of anyone who missed it, basically, we said that masthead amplifiers are a waste of time for FM radio receiving, as all they do is amplify everything, including noise, and we suggested the best thing to buy was a rotator. Along with an FM aerial and a bit of height (not forgetting good conditions - high barometric pressure usually), and you are away and running. We mentioned 'Aerial Techniques' above, but must once again mention Ron Smith of 98 Ash Road, Luton, Beds. LU2 9AX... Tel (0582) 36561. Ron specialises in custom made antennae and will gladly advise if you need help.

We must apologise for the haphazard state of last week's report, including the incorrect date. This was entirely due to computer problems, caused by a Rank Xerox engineer, who managed to successfully erase several vital programmes. It may be an idea to check your address label (next week will do, if you have thrown out this week's) just to see if it is exact, as the information is taken from rather an old copy. Would new subscribers also, please note that addresses without a post code, could possibly be subject to delays by the post office.

Once again, we must sincerely thank everyone who keeps writing in with news, information, cuttings, recordings, photographs and much more. Whilst we are unable to write back and thank everyone, we find what you send invaluable. Special thanks this week, again, for the cuttings from the East Anglian papers.

WANTED: Free radio enthusiasts who would like to assist with information for a new monthly free radio magazine on VHF/MW/SW. Please write to : SWN, 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH or telephone (04023) 42022. Stations are also invited to send information.

WANTED. English versions of Offshore Echo's Magazine numbers 48 and 58. Send details to : T.P. Joyes, 47 Sanctuary Close, St. Johns, Worcester WR2 5PY.

FOR SALE. Squire / Citronic 6 Channel Stereo CX900 Mixer, includes auto over-ride, split cue led's etc. Excellent condition £280 including p.s.u. Suitable for disco or broadcast use. Also National Panasonic RX CW 43 model, stereo radio/ double cassette recorder... stereo high speed dubbing, 5 band graphic, 4 band radio, inc. 3 FM pre-sets, detachable speakers, auto reverse facility etc. Hardly used, owner going abroad... £95 o.n.o... Write to Dept. PM, P.O. Box 539, Blackpool.

WANTED: L.P. by Dutch band, called 'Evensong', as played on Caroline in 1972, 'Medicine Man' from the L.P. 'Blue Sky Night', 'Thunder' by Michael Martin Murphy and 'Please God Don't Blow Up This Ship' by Mark Radice. Cassette copies preferred... Dept. P.M., P.O. Box 539 etc.

RADIO STATION NEWS.....IRELAND....DUBLIN. It was with complete and utter dismay that we learned of the closure of Dublin 'super-pirate', Energy 103, on Friday last, 11th March 1988. We had been regular listeners to the station since its arrival on the scene, in 1986, following the closure of Radio Nova, and the follow-up station 'Zoom 103'. It first identified as 'Energy 103' at just after 14:00 on 29th

April 1986. Richard Jackson, the D.J. at the time, told us that we were listening to a brand new station for Dublin, Energy 103. (WR 105 carried the full story). The station had been sounding rather well of late, with a bright and breezy type of format and a first class news service, headed by 'Mr News' himself, Bob Gallico. The latter's voice awoke us every morning at 07:00, almost (well, nearly almost!) without fail. Despite the loss of the up and coming Cassidy Jones quite recently, the buoyancy of the station was maintained with the addition of production man, Pat Courteney, who took over Cassidy's spot, and the enthusiasm of Tony McKenzie, who had been missing recently, due to attending the London D.J. Convention. Tony had only just re-appeared on air, with his popular breakfast show. In fact, we listened to Pat's last show on Friday and either, he was a good actor, or he genuinely did not know the destiny of the station. A good signal on 738kHz. meant that we could enjoy the programming until dusk, and very often all night, conditions permitting. On Friday, however, we switched over to another station, after the news at 17:00, with Tina Gates, as the signal had started to wobble with the oncoming darkness. We understand from loggers nearer to the station, that the programmes continued as normal, with news at 18:00, but following Pat at 19:00, not John O'Hara, but non-stop music (this was driven by weekender, Michael Mahon, we believe). At about 21:00, mid-record ('Love Bizarre' by Shiela 'E'), the station became silent and checks by us on this side revealed nothing but the 'foreigner' to be heard. This situation continued and whilst we dx-ed elsewhere on the band, time went on. At some time after 23:00, we once again 'tried' 738 and to our complete surprise, found that the music was back, but this time, with Dave Kelly. We were listening to Q 102 on 738kHz! A quick check with 819, revealed parallel transmissions. We later learned that the closure was sprung upon the staff, about 17:00, as they were being paid their wages. Although some uncertainty over the future had prevailed, the immediate closure came as a complete surprise. Shortly after the close-down, the link equipment was transferred from Leeson Street, to the studios of Q, in Mount Street. At around 23:00 hours, the links were operative and Q's programming was heard on 738kHz.AM, 99.9MHz. and 103.0MHz.FM, in addition to 819kHz., 101.9MHz. and 102.3MHz. Q now boasts 4 FM's and 2 AM's, the same as Sunshine 101. No mention was heard of the extra frequencies, and hasn't been to date. Mike Duggan took over from Dave Kelly at midnight, and completely surprising us again, Jason Maine was heard following him, first thing yesterday. Jason apparently had second thoughts about leaving completely, and following a rest, returned with a couple of weekend slots for the time being.

All these happenings completely contradict rumours going around saying that Q was winding down operations in view of impending legislation. As it is, following an interview with Minister Burke (for Communications) in the week, on RTE, we understand the imminent legislation is progressing satisfactorily and the new legal stations should be on air in 1989. According to previous reports, 'four to six weeks were left at the most'. So it looks like there could be at least another year left for the pirates, and Q no doubt feel the same way, hence these moves.

We should just like to mourn the passing of Energy, who at the end of the day, was a 'son' of Nova, who in turn was one of the greatest pirates ever. Lack of advertising was possibly a good reason to close, but with the new Radio Nova International, satellite delivered service due to start on May 1st, from the South of England, all enthusiasm and investment were being diverted in this direction. It is not at this stage, known if any Energy presenters will appear on the new Nova service, but we will be keeping a close watch on developments. Finally recent adverts on Energy have informed us about goods on sale at the old Nova/Energy shop at 144 Upper Leeson Street. Advertised have been 'Gut Busters' (Tummy trimmers) and items of that nature. We understand that the premises have been leased out to the traders who deal in this merchandise.



We feel sure that Sunshine 101 will not be mourning

the end of Energy, as it will mean a bigger slice of the advertising cake. We were a little surprised that no press coverage was given over to the recent £20,000 giveaway, won by a ten year old boy and his family in Firhouse, yet Q managed coverage for a live, on-air proposal of marriage between a couple, on 29th February. Strange beings, newspaper reporters!

Klas FM is now the title of the new, 'in town' based station, formerly Klas 98.5. Hugh Hardy now leases it out, we understand, and plays no part in any programming whatsoever. David Baker is still the main man and he tells us that the studio and offices are situated in the city centre, at 76 Dame Street. The station is still an easy listening one, despite the changes. The current weekday line - up reads... 08:00 Brian Craig... 12:00 Dan O'Sullivan... 16:00 David Hynes... 20:00 Keith Shanley/David Baker. Between 23:00 and 08:00 tapes are used. The programme between 12:00 and 16:00 will feature interviews as well as the usual easy listening music. Weekend presenters include Michael Swan, John May, Ian Turner and Bryan Lambert. A new telephone number for requests is being aired. It is.... 719014, but only after 17:00. Advertising can be booked on 773808 during office hours.

TECHNICIAN REQUIRED by KLAS, capable of installing and operating new VHF and UHF transmission equipment at the station. Other work is also involved. Standard salaries are paid. Contact David Baker On Dublin (01) 773808 or 719014.

The voice of Tony Allan was heard in the week, on **Liberty 104**. Apparently Tony does one afternoon show per week on the station, whilst the rest of the time, he spends producing the news service on **Viking 105** in Wicklow town.

Co. LOUTH. Reports from Dundalk tell us that **Radio Carousel** are now back in the Fairways Hotel in the town, and are operating on 1125kHz.AM and 87.95MHz. The big transmitter on 99.25MHz. is presently just putting out a blank carrier.

Co. MONAGHAN. As we were printing last week's report, we received the transmissions of **Kiss-FM** from Monaghan town, on 1008kHz., despite local ILR activity 'next door'. Regular logging has revealed a test tape of excellent music, interspersed with jingles for the station, played continuously. The voice of Miles Johnston has been noted, 'telling us a little about Kiss-FM', albeit, not very much! The signal holds up well here, day and night, although is best at night after Hilversum signs off at 21:00. It gets into Belfast, its target area rather well, on 1008kHz., but suffers from Hilversum there also, in the early evening. The FM is still on low power since the collapse of the mast. The aerial system has not yet been heightened, as work cannot be carried out due to high winds up the mountain. A certain 'buzz' exists here, not felt since the start of Radio Nova in 1981. We shall continue to monitor, night and day in anticipation! A couple of adverts have been noted on the test tape, one for a mixer drink, and one for a free radio organisation in Blackpool(!). We believe some deal may have been set up with **Northern Star**, as Kiss were heard to announce that Nothern Star could now be found on 1116kHz., instead of 999kHz. (which was a poor choice of channel, anyway!).

Co. LONGFORD. A report from Ballinamuck tells us that **Independent Radio Longford** have moved to 99.0MHz.FM and are now in stereo. Meanwhile, **Longford Community Radio** continue on low power, on 1071kHz., with only a fraction of the length of the original aerial in use.

Co. GALWAY. We understand from a reliable source, that **Twigs FM/ West Coast Radio** have ceased transmissions completely.

Co. LIMERICK. Five stations are still operational from the city area, they are **Hits 954**, **Radio Luimni**, the **Sound Channel**, **Stereo Radio Munster** and **Radio Vera**. The first two are on medium wave, as well as FM, 954kHz. and 1125kHz. resp. Of the two, a passing reporter thought Radio Luimni was the stronger signal. Hits continue to plug away and make good progress. Their new premises at 5 Cecil Street are very satisfactory, we are told, and the telephones are back in operation.... (061) 42508 for the office and (061) 42699 for the studio. Three sales executives are employed, headed by Dave Shearer, who replaces Mike Cottee, who has since left. A number of agency ads are current, including ones for Jet and Maxol petrol, Blist-eze, the Daily Star, the Sunday World, Estee Lauder and others. The weekday

line-up remains basically unchanged, except that Stuart Clarke is doing drive-time news. A big home entertainment giveaway is in the pipeline, but more about that in a future edition. Radio Luimni continue with 'John the Man' in his own inimitable way. Munster don't seem to be able to decide what format to take, with all styles of music noted from time to time. Radio Vera are sounding passable, however, and are currently operating from studios next to Munster. Their library is limited somewhat and they appear to have only four jocks. Ad-wise, three or four have been noted, of which at least two appear to be false. They have attracted quite a few listeners, nonetheless.

OFFSHORE STATIONS...THE VOICE OF PEACE. After a break of two weeks with no news or reports, we received three this week! They came from Paul Fraser, Ian Hudson and Vered and Gali Kravitzki, to whom we extend our thanks. Paul writes... 'We now have an Optimod for the AM rig. It's the latest model, the 9100B, and it arrived on board on 11th February. Sadly, the office staff in Tel Aviv forgot to include the manual, so our long-suffering engineer, Noam, had to make do with an oscilloscope reading of the AM signal out, and a Sony pocket radio when fitting it. Our sound on AM is definitely more powerful and ardent dx-ers in the U.K. are asked to check out for the VOP, on 1539kHz., around midnight when the massive German station goes quiet and reads shipping forecasts etc. The improved AM audio may help bring it up out of the noise. Anyone receiving it may like to send a reception report to Paul Fraser, VOP, 13 Frug Street, Tel Aviv, Israel. On 25th February, our new full time transmitter engineer arrived. His name is Dan Howard and he hails from the USA, where he has worked in military set-ups. Since his arrival, he has been working on the FM rig, which failed on 27th. At present, it is giving around 5kw. into the stack = 20kw ERP. We are expecting a brand new FM rig of the same type, around the end of March/beginning of April. On 1st March, at 08:00, furious arcing started at one of the insulator connections on the AM aerial. Danny repaired it that afternoon. On 2nd March, Nick Bennett's (a.k.a. Pieter Bread) resignation was finalised and he left. On air staff on 8th March, include Kenny Page, Paul Fraser, John McDonald, Ian Hudson, Steve Cromby, Martin Murphy and Michael O'Sullivan. The crew include Captain Tennes Aaldijk, chief engineer, Arnold Bio, ass. eng., Radha Krishna, seaman, Jim, and cook, Max Berber'

Asked why he changed his name, from Nick Bennett to Peiter Bread, Pieter replied that he became bored with Nick! He also adopted another name although found it was not suitable for airing. He obviously got bored with VOP life! New jingles have been noted in the last few days. The on-land monitoring team tell us that FM transmissions have been very spasmodic, with low power being noted. On 18th February. there was a day of "Carnival Music". Apparently this was Abie's idea, but by 08:30, he decided that the format was 'giving him a headache', so Latin American ballads were played for the rest of the day. This too, was reported as being 'dreadful'. Friday, 26th February was a 'Peace Day', due to George Schultz visiting Israel for talks. A 20 minute interview with Israeli Premier, Shimon Perez, was aired at 16:00 on 24th February. Finally, there is a new programme called 'What would we do?' where Abie talks to listeners, who call up the station, about the problems between the Israelis and the Arabs. This programme goes out daily, ex. Friday and Saturday, from 14:00 till 16:00.

RADIO CAROLINE. After the excitement of last week, and the separate shortwave tests, this week has quietened down somewhat. The weekday line - up has been fairly consistant with, at... 05:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 Robbie Jay... 13:00 Steve Conway... 17:00 Steve Masters... 21:00 Alex. Through the night, when a 24 hour operation is in operation, the extra four hours are shared by Alex and Steve Masters, except at the weekend when Mike Watts hosts the full four hours. The exception to the above was on Friday morning, when Chris Kennedy hosted until 06:30, when continuous music was played, followed by Steve Conway, some time later, until 09:00. News at 08:00 was read by Mike Watts. Steve said that Chris was 'indisposed'. Chris was not heard again, until Saturday afternoon, at 17:00, when from comments he made, it looked as if he had been suffering from 'flu. Only a few breaks in transmission have been noted this week, these being mainly on the shortwave service. Speaking of which, transmissions on 6210kHz. have been picked up in New Zealand. They have been reported on virtually every DX programme on international broadcast

stations. One in particular, was Media Network, who made a small feature out of it, with regard to an unusual form of reception report, with the listeners switching on their own transmitters to call the station back. Whether this helped in any way in giving Caroline credibility in the world of broadcasting, we are not sure, but we hear that one or two in the organisation were far from pleased. It certainly was an interesting episode, and Media Network even heard a station call up from Poland. On Monday, Chris Kennedy made one of the few references to the service, by saying that they were world-wide on shortwave, but unfortunately, at that point the 6210kHz. service was off the air!

SPECIAL TAPE OFFER. For the benefit of anyone who missed last Sunday's interesting split short wave service, we have on tape, recorded here, all but the first few minutes of what went on. The station went off twice, listening for reports, and a few minutes of these have been left on the recordings. The quality was surprisingly good, with very few fades, but as happens with shortwave, a Luxembourg type effect is evident on occasions. This is a twin pack (1 x C.90 and 1x C.60) offer and will cost just £3.00 for the pair. The title is Caroline Shortwave- Split Service.

LAND - BASED STATIONS IN THE U.K.

This week sees the welcome return of Sid, for his latest observations of the crowded FM radio band in Greater London.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

4th - 5th March 1988.

This weekend touched down on 24 stations, with only 8 being in stereo.

Missing / not heard :- C.D.R. - Groove FM - Ram Jam Radio - R.T.R. - P.R.S. - Soul FM - L.W.R. - Roots FM - Starpoint - K Jazz - D.B.C. - Touch FM - Traffic Jam Galaxy - Hits FM - SW Sound.

A typing error in WR 199 put me on holiday off the North American coast (in whose warm and dusky climes I would far rather have been), instead of an island, (in the throes of the worst weather in 167 years) off the North African coast, where I was surrounded by naked geriatrics and little else. Not even Caroline shortwave got through there.

With the extensive new funding from the government, the DTI hit squads have made their presence increasingly felt over the last few weeks, and this week has been no exception. Even **Traffic Jam** (97.8) has been hit, as their amazing run of uninterrupted programming comes to an end, for what is believed to be the first time since they began regular transmissions in May 1987. Only the newer and less well established have not made a speedy return.

First heard on 94.3MHz. in May 1987, and apart from a few tests since, this week saw the return of East London soulsters **MRS** in the increasingly popular 105.45MHz. slot. Part live, and overnight on tape, they were expected to clash with the announced full weekend from 'Golden Oldie' specialists **Hits FM** (105.5). Hits failed to make the scene, as did the long anticipated time sharer, heavy rockers **DC FM**. Complications set in when one message service announced that Hits had decided to change their minds about folding the operation, and would be back soon. What this means for alternative rockers DC-FM remains to be seen.

With **Raiders Pop FM** (105.25) missing on Saturday (5th March) it was possible to hear faintly, a soul station on the same slot at various high spots in South London. This may have been popular out-of-towners **Stomp FM** from Essex, or even way out of towners **ABC FM** from the Sussex coast, which has been touched down on, on at least one other occasion under similar conditions.

Still on the subject of out-of-towners, with **Roots FM** (93.15) down, what is thought to be Watford's evening part - timers **Playback FM** (93.15) have been caught a couple of times, but poor reception has meant that positive ID'ing was not possible.

Raiders FM, meanwhile, did hit the airwaves on Sunday, only to disappear quite suddenly just before 8pm. It is assumed that this was a test, and that logistical problems are still plaguing them.

Rock FM (94.3) were heard briefly on, early Saturday evening, putting their stereo rig through its paces. They returned in the early hours of Sunday morning, putting out album sides of some of the more wimpish early seventies bands. A full days programming followed from the 'Magnificent Seven'. Interestingly, a drop-in announced 'R-FM, playing good music on at least one day a week'. The inference here is that R-FM will not now be making the long expected, and eagerly anticipated leap to full

programming, but will remain a specialist part-time station.

With daytime 'Golden Groovers', **News Music Radio**, weekend soulsters, **Groove FM** and roots reggae rockers **Ram Jam Radio** all off - air, the 89.7MHz slot has remained very quiet of late. But not for long, as a heavy duty signal was heard coming out of Southall from **Sangam Radio**. In the battle for the Asian listener, Sangam has not been as consistent as Sikh rivals **Sina Radio Int.** (90.85). Both stations have suffered badly at the hands of Brixton community stations. Sangam, who were only heard on this slot on one occasion over the weekend, are therefore thought to be testing the water with this frequency. They were previously on 90.4'ish, until Brixton's **People's Radio Station** (90.4) muscled in at the beginning of February. The move to 89.7, if sustained will give them better and clearer coverage. However, it is by no means uncertain that one, or possibly all three of the previously named stations will return to do battle over this slot.

Harlesden's **Girls FM** (96.9 - stereo) continue on their intermittent way, with a stereo signal that associate station **Time Radio** (103.8) would have been proud of a month or two back. Even though they have their transmitters and mast in the back garden, Time Radio's signal remains well down. With DTI attention and the lack of council funds to replace the lost equipment, they must be feeling the pinch a bit. This leaves South London's **TKO** (102.45 - stereo) the undisputed power leader, with the best and cleanest signal in town. There are also reports of further massive increases in power, which will put the electricity bill up quite considerably for one particular South London tower block. Their nearest rival is that of Brent's **JBC** (104.35 - stereo), who's stereo signal gets well out into the Home Counties.

Running behind JBC, are Brixton neighbours **Passion Radio** (90.7) and **Faze 1** (91.0), who are both putting out rock solid mono signals. Faze 1 suffered a minor difficulty this weekend, when, for a number of hours on Saturday night, they were virtually unlistenable, when they somehow managed to re-broadcast all the calls from a local mini-cab firm. However, some of the remarks from the cab firm's despatcher, were quite lucidly entertaining in their own right.

In the general mainstream of black radio, **Fresh FM** (103.25) has been noticeably operating at less than optimum performance. No doubt, general hassle from DoTI people accounts for this. Also having problems, are North London long weekend soulsters **Studio FM** (92.75), who were struggling to get any kind of signal out over much of the weekend. When Saturday came, and a decent signal was finally heard, the presenter was so overjoyed that not only was he gleefully relaying all the reception reports that were coming in, but quite happily sat in for an extra three hour stint, when his relief failed to arrive. Unfortunately, the euphoria was premature, as they fell back into obscurity the following day. **Wicked Neutral and Kicking - WNK** (102.85) who are fighting a losing battle with all the legit stations on close by frequency slots, made several appearances over the weekend, and actually improved their signal at one point. But this was not to last.

Well, its good to be back. It was a great relief to return to London to hear some good music, and especially to find that Radio Caroline was actually receivable after dark. From the anarchic world of London's free-market orientated privateer radio - more next week, providing the DTI leave enough stations on the air to write about.

LONDON UP-DATE. The on - air situation in the city has been very confusing all this week (7th - 12th March). Almost all stations appear to have been hit at least once, and some have been noted off the air many times, suggesting an extremely high level of DTI activity culminating in a van full of transmitters. First though, we go back to a few snippets of news missed in the last report. The massive raids on **LWR** (92.2) two weeks ago continued into the following week, with the station not only losing transmitters, but also suffering a raid on the studio. This station seems to be number one on the DTI 'hit list' at the moment, as they have not been on the air with a regular schedule since the studio raid over a week ago, and only unidentified tests have been heard on their channel on Tuesday night (8th). **TKO** (102.4) are also understood to have lost a studio. However, unlike LWR, **TKO** have since returned to the air with a tremendous power increase, as Sid mentioned in this week's survey, and several colleagues have observed over the past few days. **Hits FM** (105.5) did in fact make it back

to the air last Saturday (5th), but sometime before 3pm their transmitter was once again sabotaged by unknown persons, and was nothing to do with the DTI. It appears as though the mains cable to the rig was cut, and then the transmitter taken some time at a later date. This was in fact, the reason for the station's announcements that they were to close. They hoped to be back on the air this weekend, and for it to pass trouble free. As mentioned earlier, once again this past week, all stations have been noted missing at one time or another, with the exception of **RJR** (90.0 - stereo). In the midst of all this DTI activity, one station has actually braved enough to return to the air, it being **Rock to Rock (RTR)** and on its original frequency of 90.2MHz. This station was busted several times in recent weeks, but are giving it another try, with a good signal across London. Friday night (11th), saw the whole top end of the band wiped out as far as the bigger privateers was concerned. No stations were logged above 98.0MHz (Traffic Jam being the highest, and they were bleeding over into the police area of the band, so were not expected to last much longer). The massive signal from **TKO** (102.4) was not there (rumours of 700 watts being used by them, reached us this week), and **Time Radio** (103.8), **Fresh FM** (103.3) and the **Greek station** (104.4) were all missing, suggesting yet another blitz by the DTI. Saturday dawned, and still all the big station were off the air, with only the **Greek station** on 104.4 having returned. **Raiders FM** (105.2) conducted a test transmission in the morning, and **Hits FM** (105.5) did make it to the air, with a very good signal right through until close-down. Other stations heard over the weekend included **London Greek Radio** (88.4), **RJR** (90.0), **RTR** (90.2), **P.R.S.** (90.4), **Passion Radio** (90.6), **Faze 1** (91.0), **Sky FM** (91.7), **Studio FM** (92.7), **Solar 93** (93.0), **KISS FM** (94.0), **R-FM** (94.3), **City Radio** (94.5), **Greek** on 96.1, **Traffic Jam** (98.0), **J.B.C.** (104.3) and a third **Greek station** on 104.4MHz. There were certainly nowhere near as many stations as several weeks ago. The big stations, **TKO**, **Time** and **Fresh** had all returned by Sunday, although **Time Radio** were reported to be on very low power. Continuous music was heard on 92.3MHz., suggesting **LWR** on test. A station playing rock music on 89.7MHz. was thought to be **London Rock**. Finally, a new station called **Jive FM** (92.85) was heard giving out an address in south Harrow.

BRISTOL. Just 13 hours after **B.A.D. Radio** (105.2 / Friday - Sunday) had finished their weekend programmes, rivals **F.T.P. Radio** (104.0 / all week) were heard on Monday 29th February, shortly after 16:00 with a leap day return to the airwaves. Non - stop music was heard at this point, with the station putting out a reasonable signal, and first class audio, although the previous hum was still present. At 16:30 a deejay announced, "well, we're back", and following this, programmes were back as normal. For the next few days, the sign on time was a little variable, but the station was on each early evening / night. From Thursday 3rd March, **F.T.P. Radio** were back to their regular 17:00 sign - on, and were giving out plenty of dedications, despite having no contact address or telephone number. Programmes were noted both on Friday and Saturday, although there was an apology given for the missing 'Childrens Hour' which was not produced in time for Saturday afternoon. On Sunday afternoon, their 'specialist' shows were aired, 'The Gospel Express', 'The Over 30's Show' and 'The Senior Citizen Show'. Later on Sunday night, a programme featuring slow soul music was heard up until closedown at midnight, called 'The Love Show'.

B.A.D. Radio (105.2) were again active over last weekend, and signed on for the weekend at around 18:00 on Friday 4th March. Their signal was once again strong, but the audio had a few distorted sections later in the evening. They were heard until sign off at 03:00. The distortion problem carried on, when **B.A.D** signed on at 15:00 on Saturday afternoon (5th). A telephone number was given out later that evening, for prospective advertisers to give the station a call for more information. Sunday's programmes were as normal, with a sign-on at 15:00, and closure at 03:00 on Monday morning.

NOTTINGHAM. **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.05) continue to operate daily to a wide area around this city. Their programmes consist of mainly black music, with community announcements being aired at times.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE. Starting off in Keighley this time. **NLV Radio** (104.9) is still on the air five days per week (Monday - Friday) from 07:00, and gaining listeners every day, not only due to playing plenty

of music, but also for their increasing involvement and help on local community matters.

EXTRAS: programmes on Keighley's radio station. **NLV Radio**, broadcasting on 104.9 mhz FM Monday to Friday: daily - Young Paul (7-10am), Mad Murdoch (10am to 1pm), Lynne (1-3pm), Stevie B (3-6pm); non-stop House music, Monday (6-8pm); Nick Nickleby Experience heavy rock show, Monday (8-9pm), Wednesday (7-8pm); Asian music with Ashad, Tuesday and Thursday (6-7pm); Gallup top twenty, Friday (6-7pm). Record requests can be posted or left at Criminal Records, 144 Station Bridge, Keighley, or phone Haworth 46609 or 43339.



Hull's **Radio Takoradi** (105MHz.) have now altered and extended their broadcasting hours. Plenty more presenters are now being heard, and last Saturday (5th March) the programmes began at 10:00 with K.D. A special guest was announced for 13:00, but he failed to appear, and non - stop music ensued. The most professional of the new deejays was understood to be 'Shammy' who programmed for two hours in the afternoon. The line - up for the day was... 10:00 K.D.... 11:00 Andy M... 12:00 Jay Lion... 13:00 Non - Stop... 14:00 Shammy... 16:00 Jack Master Lee... 17:00 Murdoch... 17:30 K.D.... 19:30 Closedown.

In Leeds, the regular seven day stations **Music City Radio** (90.3) and **ABC FM** (105.2) have been missing for most of the week. Neither were heard on Thursday night, but **New Horizon FM** (91.8) did take to the airwaves that evening with the usual diet of black music. Horizon also commenced their weekend schedule on Friday afternoon, possibly going through the night, as programmes could still be heard at breakfast time on Saturday morning. **ABC FM** were actually heard having a few problems with their link last Sunday, as distortion, and eventually just hiss was being transmitted on 105.2, despite their carrier being at full strength. They did fix this problem however, after a short time. **Music City Radio** were back on the air Friday night (11th), but as of yesterday afternoon (12th), there was still no sign of **ABC FM**.

In South Yorkshire, **Rebel Radio** (105.4) were back on the air on Thursday, 10th March with an hour of 50's and 60's music. The station closed at 21:27. Scooter Jones informs us that the reason he left the air suddenly on 3rd March was that unknown people were sitting outside the studios. This seems to occur on almost every broadcast. If any true radio enthusiast is responsible, they are asked to please stay away during broadcasts, as this results in programmes being cut short.

W.L.N.G. (104.9) were heard on Tuesday night (8th March) between 20:30 and 22:36. At 21:32 a new presenter calling himself 'Mojo Rising' was heard playing early rock such as Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix etc. It is not certain as to whether **W.L.N.G.** were on the air on Thursday. If they were, then the signal was not getting out to the West of Scunthorpe as well as normal.

CONTACTS. Dave Shillam would like to get in touch with the operator of Music Weekend Radio (South Yorkshire). Dave can be contacted weekday evenings on Sheffield 646867.

MERSEYSIDE. Last week, we mentioned that **Storeton Community Radio** (1026kHz.) had been noted off the air during Sunday afternoon. A letter received in the week informs us that the DTI were in the area, and Storeton went off the air at 15:15 as a precaution. They returned a little later at 16:00. The station currently has two mailing addresses, the one we printed two weeks ago, and also : 91 New Hey Road, Woodchurch Estate, Birkenhead, Merseyside. The line - up for the station today is... 10:00 John Sniff... 12:00 Les Martin... 14:00 Fat Man... 16:00 Pablo B... 18:00 Brian C... 20:00 T.P. Topic... 22:00 Gaz Top.

Monday started the week off on a good foot, with both **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) and **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz.) putting out very good signals, and Merseywaves promising to broadcast through the week. They were on the air on Tuesday morning, but are understood to have disappeared at around 11:10 that morning in mid - record. They were not heard again in the week, and in fact were on the receiving end of yet another raid by the DTI in which we are told they lost another transmitter. The station did not manage to make it to air for their regular Friday start to weekend transmissions, and in fact, have not been heard by us up until time of printing, late Sunday afternoon.

Friday appeared, and as already mentioned, there was no sign of Radio Merseywaves. **Radio Atlantis** were not heard on Friday morning, but were on in the afternoon, the off air time being due to an attempted DTI raid. The DTI had also attempted to raid the station the previous Tuesday morning. A caller that afternoon informed us that **Radio Julie** were back on the air with high power. A quick tune to 104.8MHz., confirmed that the station was indeed on the air. They were announcing test transmissions, and a few problems with the stereo beacon flashing were noted. However, their signal here was very good (with an outside aerial), and even in stereo, only a slight hiss was noted at our distance of about 50 miles. A relay of the news from Radio City was heard at one point, and then later on, Red Rose Radio was also relayed. As already mentioned, the signal was very good, probably stronger here than they used to be last year. The audio quality was also impressive, with no distortion and excellent stereo separation. Programming was announced for Saturday morning, but a few problems were encountered and this did not commence until sometime after 11:00. Station engineer Andy Davis hosted a programme at lunchtime, and made reference to their frequency of 104.85MHz., which was very close to **Veronica 104** (104.75). He expected some problems with interference, and asked if it was possible for Neil Frazer to adjust his transmitter, as the Radio Julie transmitter was crystal controlled, and could not be shifted.

A frantic telephone call to our info-line at 17:10 on Saturday afternoon by Steven Bishop of **Radio Atlantis**, informed us that the station had been raided some minutes before. Four DTI cars and a police car were involved, and two doors were smashed in, during the raid. Steven was in a telephone box at the time, and had to depart quickly as he was about to be arrested, so we only got brief details. He said that Atlantis would return. Rick Dane was on the air at the time, so we do not know what happened to him during the raid. Thirty minutes later, on **Radio Julie**, the presenter was heard saying that Gordon Yeates was outside the block of flats. Earlier in the afternoon, white Peugeot cars with aerials were seen outside, the same as those in the attempted raid on Merseywaves recently.

Today, **Storton Community Radio** (1026kHz.) were heard on the air as expected, and **Radio Julie** (104.85) were also putting out a good signal. We were waiting for 15:00, and **Veronica 104** (104.75) to sign on to see how they would be received with Julie very close. In fact we could hear Veronica 104, but listening was uncomfortable with bleedover from 104.85MHz. Let us hope by next week, something has been sorted out between the two stations.

Other stations heard locally include **Eastham Community Radio** (105), who were on the air last Sunday night. **Liverpool Pirate Radio** is also reported to be active each weekend around the 1400kHz. area. L.P.R. has not been received by us for some time, and is currently only on low power serving the Liverpool area.

CHESHIRE(?). **Outlook 96.3** was on the air last night on 96.35MHz. They seem to have severe overload problems into the transmitter making the output very distorted. They

are still announcing 25kW from the Irish Republic.

MANCHESTER. **I.C.R.** (103.5) have been heard without too many problems all week with the usual diet of reggae and soul. **W.B.L.S.** (102.4) have also been noted, and now seem to be putting out regular programmes, and recently announced plans for a seven day service. Other stations reported being heard include **F.A.B. FM** (97 / 94.2 / 1017kHz), and a new station called **Centre Radio** (92.1) broadcasting from Tameside.

RENFREWSHIRE. **Radio Mercury** (96.1MHz) were only heard this week on Wednesday and Thursday evenings between 19:00 and 22:00. No reason for their non-appearance is known. Neon Radio are expected back on the air on Friday or Saturday on 103.9MHz.

THE MIDLANDS. This area seem to have missed out on all the DTI activity this week. As a result, all stations have appeared as normal, headed of course by the two seven day operations of **Enterprise FM** (91.8) and **Radio P.C.R.L.** (103.5). The Asian stations are also operating seven days per week, but only in the evenings as far as we can tell. The three are called **A.R.B.** (104.9), **A.C.R.** (105.7), and **M.A.C.R.** (106.0). **Powerhouse Radio** (105.1) have been heard each night this week, and are reported to have a stronger signal. They commenced broadcasts at 12:00 today.

SHORT WAVE STATIONS...TODAY's LOG (13th March 1988).

6210kHz...**RADIO CAROLINE**, at 11:55gmt.
6224kHz...**RADIO ATLANTIQUE 2000 INT.**, at 09:30gmt.
6230kHz...**RADIO MARABU**, at 10:45gmt.
6230kHz...**RADIO DX 34**, at 11:47gmt.
6240kHz...**RAINBOW RADIO INT.**, at 12:00gmt.
6240kHz...**W.L.R.**, at 12:02gmt.
6271kHz...**RADIO WAVES INT.**, at 08:30gmt.
6271kHz...**RAINBOW RADIO GERMANY**, at 09:15gmt.
6271kHz...**RADIO SOUTHSEA INT.**, at 10:05gmt.
6271kHz...**S.B.C.**, at 11:07gmt.
6275kHz...**RADIO ELECTRA**, at 12:30gmt.
6277kHz...**RADIO NEW WAVE INT.**, at 09:16gmt.
6280kHz...**4IFR**, at 08:55gmt.
6280kHz...**RADIO ASTRAL**, at 09:47gmt.
6280kHz...**WESTSIDE RADIO INT.**, at 10:12gmt.
6285kHz...**RADIO APOLLO INT.**, at 09:52gmt.
6290kHz...**RADIO ORION**, at 11:04gmt.
6300kHz...**W.F.R.L.**, at 09:19gmt.
6305kHz...**BRITAIN RADIO INT.**, at 09:46gmt.
6310kHz...**WABC ('The Hot 101')**, at 11:08gmt.
6314kHz...**RADIO DELTA**, at 12:41gmt.
6315kHz...**WABC ('The Hot 101')**, at 09:43gmt.
6315kHz...**RADIO TUTENCHAMEN**, at 10:39gmt.
6315kHz...**ALT. MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT CH.**, at 10.48.
6315kHz...**S.B.C.**, at 11:52gmt.
6315kHz...**RADIO No.1 (QSO)**, at 12:49gmt.
6315kHz...**RADIO PAMELA (QSO)**, at 12:57gmt.
6315kHz...**RADIO SANTANA (QSO)**, at 13:23gmt.
6315kHz...**RADIO PACMAN**, at 13:45gmt.
6318kHz...**RADIO MARABU**, at 09:54gmt.
6525kHz...**KLA**, at 10:53gmt.
6620kHz...**UNID.**, at 10:50gmt.
6915kHz...**RADIO DUBLIN**, at 11:42gmt.
7385kHz...**RADIO NORDLICHT INT.**, at 10:08gmt.
7400kHz...**UNID.**, at 09:35gmt.
7428kHz...**RADIO STELLA**, at 12:05gmt.

Conditions today were average, with plenty to listen to at all times. **BOLD** logs are ours, here in Blackpool, others were kindly rung in on 0253 882017 between 13:30 and 14:30, from loggers in the Midlands, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Norwich London and Bremen in West Germany (Radiotelex).

The 6271kHz. transmissions were all relays via Radio Waves Int., but were not particularly good here today. Radio New Waves Int. gave out an address of Postbus 536, Hoogerveen, The Netherlands. Radio Electra were playing an old tape from January. 6280kHz. transmissions were from Westside Radio Int. Radio Tutenchamen supplied the transmitter for some of the relays on 6315kHz. WABC tell us that they are running on 150 watts and will be on air everyday from 08:00 until 14:00. They surfaced initially on 6315kHz., but moved later, possibly due to the appearance of the powerful transmitter on 6318kHz. The station is an Irish pirate and broadcasts on 1242kHz.AM and locally on FM, from the extreme north of Co. Donegal. The mailing address is P.O. Box 1242, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, Northern Ireland... Tel. (0860) 534438. (Please note that this is a U.K. address and telephone number).

The **WEEKLY**

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 203.....20th March 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

An appalling week in many ways, with heavy DTI activity in some areas, again. Weather-wise, even worse, with constant heavy rain here for days, yet in the middle of it all, one Spring-like day, last Thursday, which in turn, yielded superb conditions on medium wave (ground wave). A taste of things to come in the long Summer days ahead, maybe? Having said that, short wave conditions on that same day were quite the worst noted for some time around lunchtime here. Media Network was abandoned as a bad job on 5955kHz., for the first time in ages, and we had to be content to tune into 6020kHz. at tea time and suffer co-channel interference, but at least it was there for the keen ear.

March continues to be the month of anniversaries and yesterday, 19th, saw two years since the mighty Radio Nova closed down in Dublin. Today, of course, it is eight years since the Radio Caroline ship, the m.v. Mi Amigo, sank in heavy seas in the Thames estuary, and finally one rarely noted, on Wednesday 16th March, it was 15 years since the very first test transmissions from the Voice of Peace, off the coast of New York. Our thanks as usual, to Stuart for jogging our memories again.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday, from Blackpool. The cost is just 20p, but postal subscribers will note that the following rates are current.... First Class (U.K.) and to E.E.C. countries, 40p..... Second Class (U.K. only), 35p..... to non - E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Switzerland, Norway and Finland), 45p..... posted elsewhere, via air mail, the cost is 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT and reach people who really are interested in listening to, and making, good radio. Our rates are phenomenally cheap. Currently, a full page inside the report will only cost you £20.00, with half a page being £11.00 and a quarter, just £6.00. WR is posted to almost 800 subscribers at home and abroad at present. In view of the imminent arrival of major new merchandise items, we are currently compiling a second list of 'non-subscribers', people who regularly buy goods, but do not take WR. This second list is expected to contain about the same number of names again. Regular advertisers may like to contact us to enquire about rates for a mail out to this sector.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO-LINE is available to you right now. Simply call (0795) 511118 and hear a three minute message of regularly up-dated news and information. If you have news for us, call (0795) 511119 and leave your information after the whistle tone, or call (0253) 882017 and speak to someone. By calling the latter number, you may enquire about subscriptions and merchandise.

"COMMUNICATE '88" is being jointly organised by **M.O.A. Promotions** (Monitor magazine, Offshore Echo's magazine and Anoraks U.K.). The event will be held on Saturday 24th September 1988 at the Winter Gardens Conference Centre in Blackpool, during the famous Blackpool Illuminations. Entry to the all day event will be by badge only, the cost of which will be £10.00 (children under 12 will be admitted free, but only with a badge). Send no money at this stage, simply suggestions. We are currently noting these. People from outside the area are going to be very surprised how busy the town will be. Accommodation, unless booked early, will be non-existent. Single rooms and single nights are out of the question now, unless you are prepared to travel to the outskirts of the town. We have some lists of nearby accommodation available, and an SAE will secure such a list. There is a lot to do in this town, bring the family, the kids, the mother in law even, and have yourselves a good day.

NEW MERCHANDISE: **Offshore Echo's Issue 70** is imminent. You may order Europe's leading free radio magazine today. The current edition is £1.90, but a price increase is close at hand. The magazine will be despatched on arrival from the printer in France..... Bad news now... the most recent photo set, **"Ross Revenge - The New Masts"** is completely sold out. Unbelievable sales of this item have cleared stocks within a week of receipt. People who have bought this FotoFlite-produced set will of course, know why! Four astonishingly superb colour shots, size 7" x 5", for just £5.00. At this stage, we are unable to re-order but if demand was great enough, we naturally would consider this option. In the meantime, watch this space for more great offers in this line, as soon as changes take place on the ship..... All other sets of photographs are still available as listed in our current sales list and these include **'Caroline - After the Mast'...** 2 colour prints, 7" x 5", of the Ross after the collapse of the mast in November '87 (£2.50) and **'Communicator - The End?'**... 6 colour prints of this ship (inside and outside), in the River Stour, Harwich (£3.00)..... About ten days remain only, as regards the **'Mad March Sale'**. We still have small stocks of most items, although No.9 is now completely sold out (black and white photos of the Ross Revenge and Communicator)..... Finally, thanks to our worthy colleague in Belgium, we once again, have ample stocks of the popular RNI theme tune **'Man of Action'** by the **Les Reed Orchestra**. These new 7" discs are on the

European 'Br.Music' label and cost £5.00 each.

NEW ARRIVALS: **Now Radio, Issue 48.** Definitely weekly now, this arrival covers all types of radio and its 32 pages make for interesting reading. Details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Horizon, Issue 2,** from the Caroline Movement - Thanet Branch. The second in A5 format, this one has a nice shot of the mastless Ross on the front. Mostly interesting Caroline news and photos in its 12 good quality pages. Free! A 'WR' size SAE and another 18p stamp needed only, sent to 121 Monkton Street, Monkton, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 4JQ..... **Contact - The Voice of the World DX Club.** Now in its 25th year, this stalwart is still the leader in DX mags. Colossal value at just 60p for a sample copy, containing a thick wad of coloured duplicated sheets full of logs, reports and news (including some pirate), from Arthur Ward, Dept. AUK, 17 Motspur Drive, Northampton NN2 6LY..... **Play-DX, Issue 498.** Long distance logs and reports here, mainly written in English. Details, Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy.

TAPE OFFER. Some weeks, we get scores of tapes sent to us for consideration for this service, other weeks, hardly anything arrives. As a result, we have decided to offer four on such active weeks and two on quieter ones. This week's four starts in our own capital, London. After many unsuccessful attempts due to breaks in transmission and other reception problems, a lot of persevering by our good friend Alan, finally caught **Raiders FM** on a good day. As a result we can offer as Tape 172, from last Sunday 13th March, a recording of this, one of the few radio stations in London not to play black music. In fact the format on these particular shows is rock and pop. Not leaving it at this, for Tape 173, London 'oldies' station **Hits FM** is featured, who were also putting out a good signal that same weekend. A good listen for those who like 60's and early 70's music. Across to another capital now, and in Dublin, we find 'mini' super-pirate, **Treble T.R. Radio** playing the music they have played since day one, back in '81, country and Irish. This excellent recording, Tape 174, is off FM, and in stereo. Listen out for the voice of Bob Gallico on the promos. Bob now runs the TTTR news service, but this tape was made last week, before he joined the team full time. Across the next 'wet bit' and quite a lot of land to reach Chicago, where we find and offer as Tape 175 'B-96', Chicago's No.1 hit music station, or more correctly, **WBBM FM**. Melisa Morgan on hand with some recent and some current

hits, all in excellent stereo of course, from Sunday 6th March... nice tape! All this week's offers are C.90's and cost just £2.00 each. All past offers are still available, along with one or two 'specials'. Request free list.

WANTED: Recent tapes of Peter MacFarlane (Kevin Turner) on Ocean Sound West... Send details to Steve Ball, 2 Badger Grove, Meir Park, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. ST3 7RY.

FOR SALE: Laser 'Hot Hits' tapes.... contact Peter Tilt, 15b Hemplands, Lowestoft, Suffolk RN32 1JN.

FOR SALE: Viewpoint 963... Remember the excellent American Christian Countdown? Now is your chance to get hold of a studio quality copy of one of the shows broadcast on Viewpoint 963. Available on a set of 2 x BASF tapes for just £4.00 from Anchor Productions, 73 Middle Mead, Hook, Hants. RG27 9NX.

FOR SALE: Sony ICF 7600D portable, 150kHz. to 30MHz. range + FM... £100. Also, AR 2001 scanner, 25 to 550MHz. range... £200. Both in mint condition with all original packaging and accessories... telephone Mark on (0734) 483593.

WANTED: Recordings of most Caroline D.J.'s from August 1983 to December 1986 (good quality ones where possible) and a recording of Radio Apollo Int. (particularly the interviews) which was broadcast on 13th March 1988... Will swap or buy... Nicola Pledge, 2 Helmsdale Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa, Warks. CV32 7DW.

SITUATION VACANT: Dublin station, K.L.A.S., is looking for a full time technician to install and stand by new broadcast equipment. Standard rates of pay. Refs. required. Applications in writing please, to, David Baker, Jasonia House, 76 Dame Street, Dublin 2.

FOR SALE: Comedy - The key to real success as a D.J! The best D.J.'s have the wit to use comedy to brighten their programmes - and a source book of carefully selected material is now available - "BOB'S COMEDY HANDBOOK". Material chosen from thousands of items used over the past six years by Bob Gallico in over 1500 Breakfast Shows on Radio Nova, Q 102 and Energy 103. One liners, two liners, quips, silly stories, insults, odd news stories and Bob's exclusive and original 'Horrorscopes'... the funniest horoscopes ever published one load of laughs for every week of the year. This collection is now available to D.J.'s (and others). 60 pages of tried and tested material - your KEY to success. Price IR£25:00, inc. P. & P. from Bob Gallico, 156 Foxrock Park, Foxrock, Dublin 18, Eire. Orders sent by return post.

*****ADVERTISEMENT*****

GENERAL: Many thanks for all the correspondence correcting address labels etc., this week. Computer failure a couple of weeks ago destroyed vital evidence (addresses) used by us each week. Please check your address label to see if it is correct. Check the postcode as well, please and let us know if that is correct. We apologise for this inconvenience and hope it will not happen again.

BOOK REVIEW by Paul A. Rusling. "Starmakers and Svengalis" by Johnny Rogan. Anyone interested in taking advantage of the new 40% maximum tax band by becoming a pop mogul, would get more tips in a new book out next week about pop managers than listening to ex-Big L, DJ Jonathan King's programme on Radio 1.

The book is a series of case studies of 17 of the the music businesses best managers - and stars are unanimous that the subject of chapter three is the most sadly missed - Reg Calvert.

It's probably my only regret that I never met this fellow Yorkshireman, as we had a lot in common, it seems. His beginnings selling fake Hartley's jam (that really was Reg's middle name by the way), through the early years promoting bands on the South coast, are all looked at in humorous detail.

The true story of how Radio Sutch was conceived (brooding in an armchair at his school of pop music!) is revealed, along with the full story of the take-over moves. Record hyping stories and anecdotes by the Fortunes and Dave Sutch complete the picture of one of the gentlest men in offshore radio, who just seems to have called bluff once too often.

Essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the true background of British pop radio. Published by MacDonalds at £12.95. (Hardback - ISBN 0 356 15138 7), from major booksellers.

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND.

It was two years ago today since we were sat at this same typewriter, telling everyone about the dramatic happenings over the past week, in Dublin. The closure of Radio Nova, 'Europe's No.1, made headline news throughout the country. The station closed at 18:03 on 19th March 1986, following almost five years of continuous and pioneering broadcasting. Radio Nova was, without any doubt whatsoever, the most successful land-based pirate ever and whatever anyone says, was possibly more successful than all the other stations added together. Rather than repeat it all here, we are going to offer a little selection of inexpensive goodies for those interested, in commemoration of a great station.

1. **Weekly Report Issue 99**, Dated 23rd March with all the details of the closedown and what happened almost immediately afterwards, plus 'A Potted History of Radio Nova'..... 20p.
2. **Radio Nova stickers**, inside and outside variety, a selection of different frequencies..... 25p each, or 5 for £1.00.
3. **The Final Hour of Radio Nova...** A C.90 recording of the final hour, plus a few airchecks of note beforehand. Recorded off air quite close to the transmitter, the recording is off AM (FM closed two hours earlier) and has a slight hum, due to the rather poor equipment and low power being used right at the end. Hear all the D.J.'s say their final goodbyes and play their final favourites, including the famous Jams 'Jingle Single'. Very much a collector's item and very good value at just £2.00.
4. **Radio Nova Sweat-Shirts...** The Nova logo on blue or grey, medium size only... half price, just £5.00.
5. **Radio Nova Bus Stickers...** Massive adhesive stickers (4' x 2'), designed for the back of buses in Liverpool. Logo and frequencies in blue, red and black on white... reduced from £5.00 for this occasion, to just £3.00.

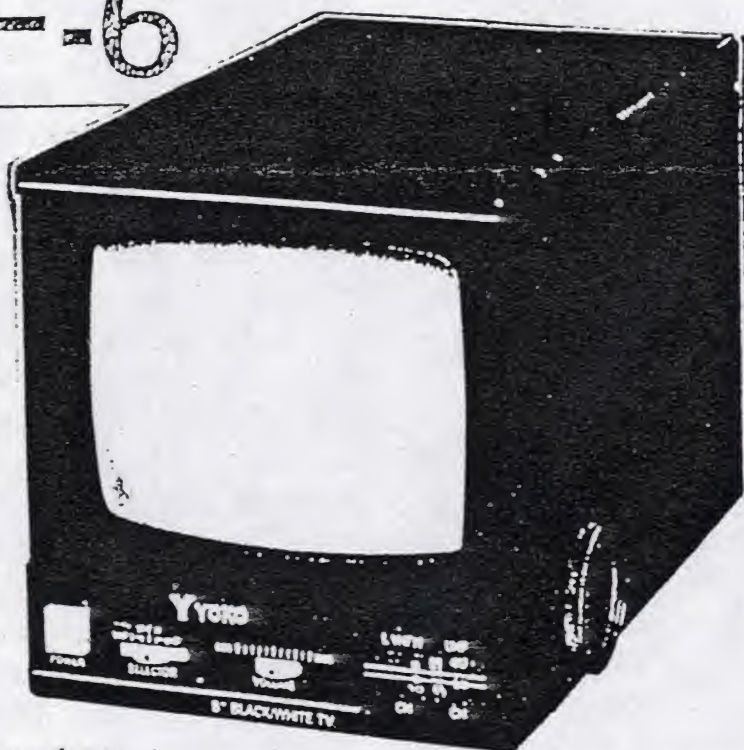
Finally, the very rare Nova video, unavailable for sale, will be shown at the forthcoming **Communicate '88** convention in September. Narrated by Tony Allan, this superb film views the station at its peak. Make a point of seeing it.

After that little bit of nostalgia, back to reality and a quick look at another closed operation, Energy 103 (Energy was a 'son' of Nova, as was Zoom, Kiss, Magic, Supernova and Exidy. Q 102 continue to be heard on 738kHz., with a superb signal, although on Tuesday, did suffer some short breaks as storms bombarded the British Isles. It appeared that the link was the cause of the minor problems. Although not received here due to poor conditions, we understand the 103.0MHz.FM transmissions continue to relay Q 102. The 99.9MHz. transmissions are understood to have ceased, in fact on the Radio West free radio show last week, it was stated that this transmitter was for sale. All sorts of suggestions have been mooted for the cessation of Energy

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broadcasts, but it appears that further funds were needed for the proposed satellite delivered service of Radio Nova International, due to start on 1st May. As Energy was not exactly 'doing a Nova' and making money, it was obviously decided to 'cut the losses' and sell the rather good broadcast equipment, which in turn would raise the necessary funds for the next venture. It is plainly obvious to anyone that Q have indeed purchased quite a lot of this equipment. It has been suggested in another publication this week, that the new Nova venture will be available on one of the old Energy FM transmitters, but this could possibly be a bit of wishful thinking.

The news service failed to re-appear on Monday morning, as we thought it just might. Obviously the directors feel the expense of such a service cannot be justified and are content to let the D.J. read the 'headline' type hourly, on the half hour. No special programmes were heard on Q on St. Patrick's Day, just a change around of some schedules. Noted on air this week, at our logging headquarters, were... Scott Williams, Gareth O'Callaghan, Greg Gaughran, Dave Kelly and Mike Duggan, the latter overnight. Jason Maine was heard at the weekend. The Abakebabra/ Q 102 car sticker competition seems very popular again and lucky winners seem to have no hesitation in claiming their £50 cash prize from one of the many branches of the fast food outlet in the city.

Not hearing Bob Gallico reading news anywhere on Monday, prompted us on Tuesday to check around the other Dublin stations. Lo and behold, we found him on **Treble T.R. Radio** in Harold's Cross Road. TTTR started, ironically, at the place where Nova closed down, Nova Park, or Greenacres Country Club, as it was known as, then. TTTR were located in a little shed behind the main club building. They later moved to a disused cinema in Harty Avenue, before arriving at their current location. Since 1981 the station has stuck to its format of country and Irish and holds a lot of respect in the city. Bob can be heard reading the news, exactly as he has done on previous stations over the past six years, hourly, on the half hour, from 07:30 till 12:30. Main news is aired at 13:00 and afternoon reader, former Nova/ Kiss colleague, Siobhan Purcell, takes over until main news at 18:00. Unlike the other stations, the news on this one is sponsored, and current sponsors are Brendan Hyland Newsagents. The station can not be heard much outside Dublin and surrounds, but dx - ers further afield, will be able to find it on 891 and 945kHz.AM and 97.5, 99.1 and 99.5MHz.FM. FM transmissions are rather good, as takers of one of this week's offers will find out.

Whilst looking for Bob on Tuesday, we did come across Tony Allan. Apparently, Tony does a morning show for **Liberty 104** every Tuesday. This is in addition to his news bulletins on **Viking 105** in Wicklow town. Liberty 104 can be heard locally on 1035kHz.AM and 104.0FM.

Millenium 88 FM surfaced on Wednesday morning. It must be pointed out that this station is not a pirate, but a subsidiary of the national service RTE. Launched to commemorate the 1000th anniversary of Dublin, the station breaks away from the pop service, Radio 2, each morning at 08:00 and runs until after lunch, when the services merge again. The station can be heard over a wide area on 1278kHz.AM and 88.0MHz.FM. On Friday, we were treated to the return to the airwaves of ex Nova and currently Capital Radio (London) producer, Declan Meehan. Declan sounded just the same as he used to sound all those years ago, on Nova. Another ex Nova colleague, John Clark, was heard in the week, along with Dave Johnson, now known as Andrew Hanlon, on news. Pleasant music based programmes were noted from the city centre studios near the G.P.O.



The pirates are not the only ones who experience transmission problems, as Millenium 88 was suffering from extremely low audio at first, on Wednesday. Obviously engineers were on hand and after some ups and downs the modulation reached an acceptable and pleasant level.

We understand that **Southside 95** are about to move into


new premises in the Dun Laoghaire Shopping Mall this weekend. The station now ceases transmissions for the day at midnight, whereas before they ran until 02:00.

Radio Dublin have been off air for about three days, we understand. They do not put out a tremendous signal on 1188kHz., but are always there, unlike their SW and FM outlets which come and go from time to time. The reason for the absence is not known, but a transmitter fault must not be ruled out.

Further to our comments on Nova earlier, we understand that to commemorate the second anniversary of their closure, a couple of lads had plans to re-live the close-down to the minute. They asked us to publicise it, but the mail delivery was especially late and the letter only arrived the day before the planned transmissions. We await reports on this. The name was to be 'Operation Nova' and the signal was to be transmitted via the facilities of the former Signal FM.

Co. KILDARE. A report from Jeff in this area reads.... 'ZEE 100 has closed and we have been off the air for the best part of six weeks. Due to lack of advertising revenue, bad management, etc., it was thought that the best thing to do was to pull the plug, as it was costing money to keep a non-profit making organisation on the air. It had been planned to move premises before the closure but that was not to be. The transmitter on 100MHz. has been re-sited on a fantastic mountain top site just outside Naas, so the carrier is still on the air and coming in really strong. The site overlooks Naas, Newbridge and surrounding areas. So, why are we still transmitting? Well, we hope to join up with KLB in Newbridge, as this seems the only sensible thing to do, and link the two stations to form one, with good AM and FM coverage. KLB's FM is pretty poor at the moment, on 103.5MHz. Their AM is on 1224kHz.

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NEWBRIDGE



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103.5 FM

1224 AM

Kildare Local

Broadcasting

9.00 am. - 10 p.m.

“The People's Choice”

Kildare Community Radio (1413kHz.) in Naas seem to be off air more than on, at present, and one wonders why they really bother at all.

Co. CORK. A report from Frank in the south....

South Coast Radio... 98FM... 'The Music Leader'. It seems as if Trevor Stevens has now left the station, as the afternoon slot from 15:00 till 18:00 consists of non-stop music. The current line-up reads.... 08:00 Scott Shannon, 12:00 Rob Allan, 15:00 non-stop, 18:00 Fergal Barry, 20:00 Linda Gray, 22:00 (approx.) Non-stop, 23:00 (approx.) Romano's Phone-in show. 02:00 Close.

WKLR... Bandon. The public meeting held by WKLR in Clonakilty on 13th March got a very good response, according to the report given in the 12:00 midday news on the station. It was agreed at the meeting that supporter's groups should be started and they hoping to commence this project in all towns in the west Cork area. All the T.D.'s (M.P.'s) in the west Cork area were invited, but only one actually turned up. The current line-up here reads... 07:00 Tim Coughlan, 10:00 John Green, 14:00 Paul Sheehan, 18:00 Non stop taped music.

ERI... Fort 97... Cork. The outside broadcast for Mother's Day last Sunday, from the Sheepskin Shop went ahead as planned, but not with Jim Lockhart and George Talbot, as was being announced. Instead, Steve O'Neil was in the studio and Hugh Browne was in the shop. Hugh has just returned to the station after a long absence. The quality of the outside broadcast was very poor, which made listening rather difficult. The return of Hugh Browne has meant a completely changed line-up. Hugh has a jingle which says... 'Hugh Browne is back!' The line-up reads... 07:00 Hugh Browne, 12:00 Steve O'Neil, 17:00 Mark Edwards, 22:00 Mark Lawrence, 03:00 Closedown. The station has been closing at 03:00 recently, due possibly to a shortage of staff, as Jim Lockhart and George Talbot are possibly on holiday.

Co. WATERFORD. One of many stations to feature outside broadcasts on St. Patrick's Day, was **ABC Radio**. They did it slightly different though, as they split their services. 1026kHz. carried the O.B. and the three FM frequencies continued with normal programmes. To link the studio to the AM transmitter in nearby Tramore, a further FM rig was brought into use on 105.45MHz. The station was also heard on short wave, relayed by Riverside Radio, on 6305kHz.

Finally, as stated earlier, superb ground wave conditions predominated on Thursday and scores of further afield stations were logged, really for the first time with any clarity this year. **Kilkenny Community Radio** on 1395kHz., what is thought to be **Galway District Radio** on 1404kHz. from Loughrea, Co. Galway (we have not actually heard them identify as such, due to a very low level microphone), **Mid West Radio** on 1332kHz., from Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo (this was due to the absence of the Kells relay of **Boyneside Radio** on the same channel) and **Breffni Regional Radio** on 657kHz., from Co. Cavan, were just a few which spring to mind. Also heard with excellent signals, were... **Cavan Community Radio**, 'the big one', on 819kHz., from Cavan town and **Kiss FM** on 1008kHz., from Monaghan town. The latter two were logged despite severe co- and adjacent channel interference. Kiss are still playing test tapes and promising to commence shortly. A new test tape has just been introduced and it contains no fewer than four adverts, along with promos, jingles and short messages.

RADIO RELICS

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RADIO MEMORABILIA AT
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LAND-BASED STATIONS : U.K.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

10th - 14th March 1988.

This weekend, touched down on 28 stations, only 7 being in the stereo mode.

Missing / not heard :- Groove FM - Ram Jam Radio - Sangam - Soul FM - Touch FM - Roots FM - Playback - Starpoint - K Jazz - D.B.C. - Roots FM - C.D.R.

Returned :- Traffic Jam, Passion FM, P.R.S. and Rock to Rock.

A little reported plan, by the London Borough of Brent, to extend an experiment with continental style 'Concierges' at the entrances of two of its troubled tower blocks, may have ramifications far beyond those originally envisaged by the planners. The scheme, which has been closely monitored by other inner city councils with similar problems of vandalism, graffiti and squatters, has seen the virtual elimination of many tower block difficulties. The 'Concierges' main concern is to control access to the building, only admitting those with a valid reason for being there. With the quite considerable cost and social benefits already seen

to have been accrued, it cannot be long before other London councils follow in Brent's footsteps. In the long run, this could eventually deny entrance to those who wish to use tower blocks as a transmitting base. It would have an immediate effect on those weekend operators who erect and dismantle their rigs in different sites each week. As more blocks come under entrance control, there will inevitably be a dwindling number of sites available. The short term effect could be more co-operation. This would, of course, depend on operator's willingness to share facilities. It is most likely to lead to more anarchy, as operators fight one another for the available blocks. With the nerves of some operators already rubbed raw, as more and more transmitters go missing, this can only lead to an increase in the already high level of paranoia and tension. The increasing number of raids is already taking its toll, as stations are becoming slower at returning. Or they return, as quickly, but with a signal that causes problems for others. Most stations are currently on a reduced coverage.

The DTI continue to strike out, and the effects are certainly noticeable, as stations flash on and off. **LWR** (92.05) are now into their second week of dysfunction. It appears that they have yet more problems in re-equipping a new studio base than arch rivals **TKO** (102.45 - stereo). **TKO** made it back Sunday, from their Tuesday bust, and are the only station sounding un-affected. However, **LWR** (92.05) are at last beginning to show signs of life after a somewhat moribund fortnight. A couple of times over the weekend, carriers were heard, but it was not until Monday, 14th March, that a carrier strong enough to stop the scan was noted.

Low power Clapham outfit, **Galaxy Radio** (103.05) are back on a somewhat intermittent basis, but their proximity to **WNK** (102.85) are **Super Fresh FM** (103.3) causes problems for the listeners of both. Also, away-day listeners from Kent and Berkshire are now unable to catch Kent's **Invicta Radio** (103.1) and Berkshire's **Radio 210** (102.9) anywhere in London.

In the early hours of Friday morning, **Studio FM's** (92.7) self proclaimed overnight 'Marathon Man' Dave West, was working himself up into an orgasmic fervour after having played a non-stop half hour tribute to forthcoming tourist soul star James Brown. He then praised the veteran star in an ever repetitive manner over the next ten minutes which became so acutely embarrassing, that it was necessary to change channels.

90 to 91MHz. has become very much privateer territory this weekend. With **RJR** (89.95 - stereo) - **Rock to Rock** (90.25) - **P.R.S.** (90.4) - **Passion Radio** (90.6) - **S.R.I.** (90.85) and **Faze 1** (91.05) all squeezing out any legit stations. **RTR**, **PRS** and **Passion** have all returned during the week. **Brixton** based **PRS** were somewhat intermittent over the weekend. Away from the Brixton area, when **PRS** were off air, could be heard a low power soul station with non-stop tapes. This could possibly have been North London's **Soul FM** who have not been heard for some weeks now, and have, on and off, occupied various slots in this area for some time.

Solar 93 (92.95 - stereo) are attempting to stay on seven days, but are receiving the usual attention from the 'Soul Destroyers', which has meant that they have been in low power, and mono for part of the time. By Sunday, they were putting out a fairly consistent stereo signal.

Peckham's **Sky Radio** (91.7) are still in mono, but are never the less, putting out a fair signal. They are carrying some very explicit, but also very funny anti-AIDS adverts. They sounded of American origin, and being that more direct, may have more effect.

Fulham based stereo micro pop/rocker **South West Radio** (105.6 - stereo) were back Friday 11th March, with a tightening up of format and pace, and a new set of station ID's (self produced as opposed to a Bill Mitchell production). On-air Friday and Sunday evenings, they have now introduced regular local news briefings, adding this to the already extensive local listings service. Apart from the currently inactive and possible defunct 'Golden Groovers' **New Music Radio** a couple of months back, news has not been a prominent part of London Privateer radio.

Also hitting a faster and tighter pace were **Hits FM** (105.5), who made a full days programming on Saturday 12th March. There has been a slight re-arranging of the schedule. Coming into the early evening slot, previously occupied by Tim Stewart, is veteran jock Gary Stevens. Tim Stewart's show, which usually features 'Free Radio News', has now moved to an earlier slot.

Rock FM (94.3) did their usual short, 'setting up' tests on Saturday evening, and also made a full days programming on Sunday. A number of inserts were heard promoting an advertising package, so maybe they are looking to get onto more than an amateur status.

Still purely in the enthusiasts mould, are the reformed and re-grouped, but not re-engineered **London Rock** (89.5), who have re-started their Saturday schedule after an absence of some months. Although they now seem to be getting quite a decent signal out, the quality still leaves much to be desired. It has always been characterised by a peculiarly thin sound, like listening to music on the telephone.

Weekenders **Raiders Pop FM** (105.25) made it for a reduced weekend period, with a Sunday only service putting out a rock solid signal. The trouble they have taken in getting the transmitter site right, now seems to be paying off, with a much better London wide coverage. It now only remains for them to regain a full weekend's programming.

The Greek's continue on their merry way, despite stories of busts, and all three were represented over the weekend. **G.C.R.** (104.45) were down in power, and **L.G.R.** (88.45) went missing on Sunday. **R.F.L.** (96.1) were having continuity problems, as there was a large amount of dead air at times, presumably as the tapes were being changed - or maybe as the Ouzo was getting low."

More from Sid next week, when we hope he has less bad news to report on, regarding DTI activity.

LONDON UP-DATE, The raids continued throughout the past seven days, although most stations were not off the air as much as the previous week. **TKO** (102.4) had both its studio and main transmitter location raided, resulting in it being off the air for a time. Also having its studio and transmitter site raided, was **Girls FM**. **RJR** (90.0) and **City Radio** (94.5) are also reported to have had main transmitters taken. **Rock to Rock** (90.2) were on the air during the week, but also seem to have suffered a raid. Unaffected by all the taking of transmitters, two of the weekend stations were heard mid - week. **Hits FM** (105.5) were on the air on Tuesday night (15th) with what appeared to be live transmissions. A telephone number was given out for requests and reports. Hits FM made a full broadcast yesterday on 105.5MHz., and were also being relayed via R-FM on 94.3MHz., during part of the day. This was apparently in order that R-FM could keep its own channel clear, as **City Radio** had been operating very close to 94.3MHz. **Raiders FM** (105.2) were also on the air during the week, on Wednesday night (16th) with a live test transmission by Mark Summers. Unfortunately, this gave the DTI an opportunity to track the station. Mark finished the tests without any problems, but the following night found that all the gear, including transmitter had gone. The DTI were responsible, but at first this was not clear, as no receipt was left. This is the reason for their absence this weekend. Today, Sunday, several stations are still notable by their absence, and they include **LWR**, **TKO**, and **Rock to Rock** who have not been heard for several days. **Solar 93** has also been missing since Friday night (18th). **Fresh FM** and **Time Radio** are on the air, but on very low power, with Fresh being noted down in frequency on 103.15MHz.

Stations heard on the air this week / weekend have been... **London Greek Radio** (88.4), **London Rock** (89.5), **RJR** (89.95), **Rock to Rock** (90.2), **Passion** (90.6), **Sina Radio** (90.8), **Faze 1** (90.95), **Sky FM** (91.7), **Studio FM** (92.7), **Jive 93** (92.9), **Solar 93** (93.0), **Playback FM** (93.1), **KISS FM** (93.95), **Rock FM** (94.3), **City Radio** (94.5), **R.F.L.** (96.1), **Traffic Jam** (98.0), **Fresh FM** (103.15), **Time Radio** (103.8), **J.B.C.** (104.3), **G.C.R.** (104.4), **Raiders FM** (105.2) and **Hits FM** (105.5 and 94.3). Just a little North of London, a station called **Jive FM** (92.9) has been on the air, broadcasting to the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire area. They were first heard testing around 1st and 2nd March, and followed this up with programming on the evenings of Friday 4th, and Saturday 5th March. The mailing address has been given as 34 Wesley Close, South Harrow, Middlesex HA2 0DL. The station has been asking for DJ's to send in demo tapes, and a number has been given for advertising enquiries. One of their slogans is 'The station with vertical polarisation'.

MERSEYSIDE. As we were busy last Sunday evening, sending out the Weekly Report, the DTI too, were busy. Following the raids on **Radio Merseywaves** and **Radio Atlantis**, they struck again at 17:55, at the site of **Storeton Community Radio**. The station was operating from the same site as the previous weeks (they had only been back on the air for

four weeks). It looks as though the scare that S.C.R. had on the Sunday before the raid, was the DTI sussing out the station in preparation for obtaining a possible warrant. The flat where the station was operating from, was 'torn apart' in the search for all equipment, and the transmitter was taken, as well as ancillary items. A call we had from one of the station's presenters, told us that it didn't seem to be the usual 'crew' who took part in the raid. It definitely seems as though more staff have been taken on, to try and stamp out free radio stations in the North West (as well as in other areas). **Storeton Community Radio** hope to be back on the air, possibly next Sunday (27th March), on their usual frequency of 1026kHz. Continuing with details of recent raids, we go back to last Saturday, and the raid on **Radio Atlantis**. It seems that Rick Dane, who was on the air at the time, managed to escape from the hands of the authorities, along with Stephen Bishop, as they fled across some fields. The flat from which they were operating was 'ransacked', and the DTI even took the television set - does this mean they have stolen a set from a rental company? Two doors were kicked in during this raid, but we are not sure which ones. **Radio Atlantis** were back on the air last weekend, on 1179kHz., but only for a short time, as suspicious cars were noted in the neighbourhood. During all this, **Radio Julie** (104.85) did not have any problems from the DTI, who seemed to be only after the MW stations.

No stations were noted again until Friday morning, when we awoke to find **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz) back with the usual excellent breakfast show. Later in the morning, we were surprised to hear **Radio Atlantis** back on too, but on 1179/80kHz. They were obviously operating on a v.f.o., and not crystal., as when Radio Sweden began to appear in the late afternoon, there was a severe variable whistle. It was nice to see the station get back on the air so quickly. Saturday, saw a return to 1197kHz. for the station.

On Tuesday evening, music was noted on 105.2MHz. and we understand from reports that this was **CD - FM**. **Radio Julie** (104.85) were heard on Friday and also further continuous music on 105.2MHz. at around 17:20. A microphone was heard being tested, but no identification was made before the transmissions ceased about twenty minutes later.

Strange things seemed to be happening on **Veronica 104** this afternoon. The station appeared at its normal time of 15:00, but 'Man of Action' by the Les Reed Orchestra was played twice, rather than the usual sign on. Neil Frazer was heard giving out an announcement, but due to low microphone levels and splatter from Radio Julie we were unable to make it out fully. We believe Neil was asking for a transmitter and a studio location. A record was then played, and the station left the air after a few more words were said. We hope to report on this situation in next week's issue. Also on air yesterday and today from the area, were **Radio Atlantis**, **Radio Merseywaves** and **Radio Julie**, with **Concept Radio** being heard at lunchtime, locally, on 104.3MHz. **CHESHIRE.** 'Outlook 963' was heard as normal last Sunday evening on 96.3MHz, and again commenced transmissions the following night at 20:00. New audio equipment accounted for the distortion previously reported, but these problems had been ironed out by Monday. However, at 20:39, transmissions suddenly ceased, without any warning. We have since learned that the transmitter disappeared from its location, whilst its owners were checking the signal levels some miles away. It is not known who took the equipment, although had it been the DTI, possibly a receipt may have been left. Also the antenna was left untouched, which seems a bit strange. The DTI are top of the list of suspects, we understand, as they were active fairly close by, in Manchester, in the early part of the week.

MANCHESTER. It appears the DTI moved from Merseyside across to Manchester on Monday or Tuesday of last week. **WBL** (102.4) left the air for a time on Monday, although it is not known whether they were actually raided, or simply went off as a precaution. They were certainly back in action later in the week. **ICR** (103.5) were not so lucky, however, and were raided sometime between 09:00 and 10:00 on Tuesday. Reports indicate that not only did they lose the transmitter, but the studio as well, plus a complete record collection. **ICR** were off the air for two days, but have now resumed with a transmitter obtained from fellow community station, **PCRL**. The **Illegal Broadcasting Company** were on the air on both Sunday and Monday, on 104.4MHz. The transmissions on Monday were much stronger than those the previous day.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE AND DERBYSHIRE. In Leeds, there is still no sign of ABC Radio, indicating that they have been another victim of DTI activity. The other two stations, **Music City Radio** (90.3) and **Horizon FM** (91.8) have both been on the air as usual for their weekend transmissions, beginning Friday afternoons and have been unhindered until the time of writing. **WLNG** were heard on both Tuesday and Thursday nights between 20:30 and 22:30 on their usual channel, 104.95MHz. The signal is once again getting out well and a reception report was heard read out from a listener in Leeds. It is also reaching Derbyshire, we understand.

THE MIDLANDS. **PCRL** (103.6) have been heard all week, uninterrupted, as far as we can tell. Rival seven day operation, **Enterprise FM** (91.8), have also operated each day, although were noted missing on Tuesday and this morning. **Powerhouse 105** (105.15) were on the air each evening from 18:00 and since Friday, have been heard in stereo. Just two Asian stations were noted in the week, these being **ACR** (105.7 and **MACR** (106.0). Transmissions have been heard around 104.8MHz., with continuous music and other tapes, although no formal identification has been noted.

RENFREWSHIRE. We mentioned last week that Radio Mercury was missing on Friday and Saturday (11th and 12th March). In fact, the station was raided that Friday, at 19:15, by three DTI and seven police. The transmissions were mobile and all the equipment was taken including a digital cassette deck. It seems that no area of the country has escaped this latest surge in DTI activity.

THE SOUTH COAST. **A.B.C. Radio** (105.3) had to close down one hour earlier than planned on its 6th March broadcast. The reason being that two DTI officials were seen DF'ing the station and were only spotted by A.B.C. staff, when they were returning to the TX, to change the programme tape. They had to walk by the DTI, to get to the TX, and managed to get to the gear and switch it off just in time. A.B.C. are still looking for helpers, so anyone in the Eastbourne area who would like to help can contact A.B.C. at 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, Sussex BN23 7RT. A mystery carrier has been noted on 91.6MHz. each Monday night for the past three weeks, blocking reception of R.B.L.

THE OFFSHORE STATIONS...RADIO CAROLINE 558. Today being 20th March, our thoughts go back eight years to the night Stevie Gordon, Tom Anderson, Nick Richards, a Dutchman and 'Wilson', the canary, were all safely rescued from the wrath of the North Sea. The ship, the m.v. Mi Amigo, as we all know, was less fortunate, and sank in 20 feet of water. The aerial remained in an upright position for many years afterwards. We had planned a little something to offer in this line, but it has had to be shelved until next week, hopefully.

Coming back to present times now, and we find the station's on - air times, and its line - up has been quite consistant over the past seven days. Except for closedown for maintainance on Monday night, a 24 hour schedule has been in operation, with the following line - up... 03:00 Steve Masters... 05:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 Robbie Jay... 13:00 Steve Conway... 17:00 Steve Masters... 21:00 until 03:00 Alex. As last week, the 01:00 to 05:00 slot on Friday, Saturday and Sunday has been hosted by engineer Mike Watts. News during the week, has been read by Steve Conway in the morning, Chris Kennedy at lunchtime and Robbie Jay during 'drivetime'. Additional bulletins were aired on Tuesday (15th) at 16:30 and 17:30, to give details on 'Budget Day'. Requests and dedications have been read out over the past couple of weeks, dating back to Christmas, suggesting that a stack of mail has recently arrived from New York.

The shortwave service was heard by us Monday, but was off the air on Tuesday and Wednesday. On returning on Thursday, a severe growling noise was heard on the channel, 6210kHz, which appeared to us, to be another transmitter on the same channel (jamming??). This continued through the rest of the week/weekend. 6210kHz left the air sometime between 10:30 and 11:00 on Sunday morning, and has not been heard since.

SHORTWAVE STATIONS. Before we start on the logs for this week, there are a couple of items to comment on from the week. Firstly, **Radio Caroline** are still operating a relay of their 558kHz. service, on 6210kHz. Although not heard every day, they are putting out rather a good signal. we understand the power is in the region of 5kW at present. The transmitter was not on early in the week, but when it returned on Thursday, it was accompanied by a 'growling'

noise, which increased during fades, suggesting that another transmitter was in operation on this channel. Perhaps they are now being jammed?? **WABC** from Co. Donegal, who were first heard relaying their AM/FM service last week on 6310kHz., can now be heard each morning and early afternoon. They have now altered the frequency, first down to 6305kHz, and then to 6300kHz., where they seem to now have settled. Finally, Thursday was St. Patrick's Day, which brought some more free radio activity, in addition to WABC, from the Irish Republic. **ABC Radio** from Waterford, could be heard on 6305kHz., and was being relayed via **Riverside Radio International**. On 6240kHz., **Boyneside Radio** could be heard across the lunchtime period, being relayed via the transmitter of **Radio Rainbow International**.

Log for Saturday 19th March 1988.

- 6210kHz...**RADIO CAROLINE**, at 07:55gmt.
- 6224kHz...**RADIO PAMELA**, at 12:00gmt.
- 6300kHz...**WABC**, at 10:30gmt.
- 6300kHz...**RADIO ORION**, at 12:30gmt.
- 6305kHz...**UNID.(German)**.
- 6305kHz...**RIVERSIDE RADIO**, at 10:03gmt.
- 6915kHz...**RADIO DUBLIN**, at 09:15gmt.

Log for Sunday 20th March 1988.

- 6210kHz...**RADIO CAROLINE**, at 07:35gmt.
- 6224kHz...**RADIO PAMELA**, at 10:07gmt.
- 6240kHz...**RADIO RAINBOW INT.**, at 12:00gmt.
- 6240kHz...**W.L.R.**, at 12:01gmt.
- 6245kHz. **RADIO BLOND PIRAAT**, at 13:10gmt.
- 6268kHz...**RADIO BLOND PIRAAT**, at 08:57gmt.
- 6271kHz...**RADIO WAVES INT.**, at 09:00gmt
- 6280kHz...**WESTSIDE RADIO INT.**, at 09:24gmt.
- 6280kHz...**STAR INTERNATIONAL**, at 09:37gmt.
- 6291kHz...**RADIO PAMELA**, at 11:17gmt.
- 6291kHz...**RADIO ORION**, at 13:10gmt.
- 6291kHz...**UNID.**, at 10:45gmt5.
- 6299kHz...**WABC**, at 07:36gmt.
- 6300kHz...**RADIO ORION**, at 09:38gmt.
- 6305kHz...**UNID. (German)**, at 09:31gmt.
- 6305kHz...**RIVERSIDE RADIO INT.**, at 10:15gmt.
- 6310kHz...**RADIO TUTENCHAMEN**, at 10:17gmt.
- 6310kHz...**RADIO MARABU**, at 10:55gmt.
- 6315kHz...**UNID.**, at 14:06gmt.
- 6318kHz...**W.L.R.**, at 09:19gmt.
- 6319kHz...**E.M.R.**, at 09:37gmt.
- 6815kHz...**UNID.**, at 11:07gmt.
- 6915kHz...**RADIO DUBLIN**, at 10:48gmt.
- 7315kHz...**UNID.**, at 10:42gmt.
- 7370kHz...**RADIO CALDONIA**, at 09:42gmt.
- 7375kHz...**UNID.**, at 09:44gmt.
- 7430kHz...**RADIO SCORPIO**, at 09:22gmt.

Conditions on the bands today were quite good, but stations were rather squashed together in particular sections of the band. Thanks to telephone reports from listeners in Scotland, Yorkshire, Cheshire, The Midlands, Norwich and London. Logs in BOLD type were heard by us here in Blackpool.

Radio Caroline disappeared from 6210kHz. mid - morning, and have not been heard since. The 558kHz. outlet continued as normal.

Radio Blond Piraat gave out an address of Postbus 669, 7900 AR Hoogeveen, Holland.

Radio Pamela were heard on two frequencies, although the 6291kHz. outlet appeared to be a tape relayed by Radio Orion, as the deejay mentioned that their normal studio had not been completed.

Radio Orion and WABC were battling for the 6300kHz. slot, early on, with a resultant heterodyne. This disappeared later when Orion moved to their original 6290kHz. channel.

Another heterodyne was noted on 6318/9kHz., caused by EMR and WLR.

Non-stop music and Radiotelex ads were heard on 6815kHz., but no station identification was noted. The unidentified on 7315kHz. was giving an address in Utrecht.

Music was noted underneath one of the 'number stations' on 7375kHz. at 09:44. However due to the strength of the 'number station' the one underneath could not be identified.

Many thanks as always for this week's news, logs, cuttings, calls, tapes, photos, samples and not forgetting St. Patrick's Day cards. All very welcome and of course, essential in order to keep WR ahead in the 'first with the news in print' stakes.

The WEEKLY

REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 204.....27th March 1988. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

Apologies to all readers who take WR second class. A strike in our local second class distribution office, at Preston, last Monday, meant that the letters posted in Blackpool on Sunday evening remained in Preston until Thursday or Friday, when the strike was resolved. As a result, many subscribers will not receive issue 203 until this week. According to the local newspapers, the strike was caused because an overseer asked two employees to work quicker! He would have been better off keeping his mouth shut! Anyway, apologies and hopefully, this week should see a return to normality.

In our continuing run of March anniversaries, the all time No. 1 occurs this weekend, when it will be 24 years since the start of it all, in the British Isles, the commencement of transmissions of Radio Caroline from the m.v. Fredericia in the Thames estuary. **Happy Birthday, Radio Caroline...24** at mid-day on Monday 28th March.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday evening, from Blackpool. The cost of this six page news-sheet, plus a sheet of newspaper cuttings is just 20p. To subscribe, the following rates apply.... posted first class within the U.K. and to E.E.C. countries, including Eire, 40p..... posted second class (U.K. only), 35p..... posted to non - E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Norway, etc.), 45p..... posted elsewhere, via air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

PAYMENTS for WR and all other goods handled by A-UK can be made by stamps, which is the most convenient way [13p and 18p ones preferably (UK) and 28p only, from Ireland], by cash, (but please, no loose £1 coins!), by cheque, Access or bank transfer. Foreign subscribers may find the latter method most convenient, and usually free of charge. Our Girobank account is in the name of R.& B.F. Johnston and the number is 12 141 6909.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT and get your message across to more than 750 members each week. Our rates are very cheap indeed... a full page within the report costs just £20.00, a half page, £11.00 and a quarter, £6.00. Apart from the remittance, all we need is a good quality copy of what you would like to see in print. A further 750/1000 people who do not take WR, but regularly buy merchandise are occasionally circularised and such a move is being considered at present. Interested advertisers who may wish to contact these people should drop us a line now and enquire about further details/ prices etc.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE keeps you informed of latest happenings in the free radio world. Simply call (0795) 511118 and hear a three minute regularly up-dated message. The information is up-dated each Monday and Friday evenings, but please note that the tape will not now be changed until much later, on the respective evenings. If you have some news, then call (0795) 511119 and leave it after the whistle tone, or (0253) 882017 and speak to someone. Subscription and merchandise enquiries can only be dealt with on the latter number, during office hours.

THE DATA PROTECTION ACT OF 1984 states that we must inform you that your names and addresses are stored on file in a computer. This is simply to enable us to deal with your details more efficiently, every week. You may request the removal of said information, but in this case, the rapid 'return of post' service will not apply.

"COMMUNICATE '88" takes place in the Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre on Saturday 24th September, from 11:00 until 23:00. Full details will be announced shortly, but at this stage, we must stress that accommodation is likely to be in short supply at the time. Anyone wishing to stay a couple of nights and enjoy the famous 'Illuminations', should book their accommodation now, without further delay. We have details of hotels and contacts to assist in this. Please send us an SAE requesting same. Blackpool is well worth seeing at this time of year and with the added attraction of the Convention, is a must.

NEW MERCHANDISE: Offshore Echo's Issue 70 should be with us in the next few days and at that time, all orders will be despatched. Send £1.90 now for your copy of Europe's leading free radio magazine. We regret that no sets of the recent photograph offer, 'Ross Revenge - The New Masts' remain. In view of the fact that a new 'revolutionary' (to Europe, anyway) mast for 819kHz. is about to be erected, we are not re-ordering this item, but awaiting further samples of photos from FotoFlite, once this new structure is in position and pictures have been taken. Whilst we also realise that this most recent set was the most magnificent ever offered, we have not abandoned them altogether and are currently exploring the possibility of producing a larger than normal postcard of the best shot of the four (the one with the Ross Revenge and Olau Britannia featured). Failing this, we shall consider a re-run of the set for the benefit of the unfortunate ones who missed out. You might like to mention that you would be interested in obtaining a set, if you have cause to write to us or order further items. This way, it will give us some idea of quantities needed, as we were well out, on our last estimate..... **Offshore Magazine, Issue 44.** Now available, this glossy black and white 44 x A5 page magazine features numerous excellent black and white photos, both old and new. The text is half in Dutch, half in English. The price is £1.90..... Finally, a few odds and ends remain from the recent 'Mad March Sale', although we have no black and white photos left at all. For anyone wishing to order further Audio Magazine cassettes (£2.00 each or £5 for 3), the following numbers only, now remain.... 3,4,5,6,7,8,9, 10,11,12,13,14,18 and 19 (and not many of them!).

NEW ARRIVALS: A nice selection once again this week, and we start off with **Play-DX, Issue 499.** Fast approaching

its half millenium (is that the right term?), this week's issue has 6 x A4 sides of logs and international news... mostly in English. Details from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **The 3RS Newsletter**, all about community radio in the north east of the U.K. For details, send 3 x 13p stamps, along with name and address, to St. Anthony of Padua Comm. Assoc., Welbeck Road, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 3BT..... **Medium Wave News, Vol 34, No.1.** 16 x A5 pages of MW news and interesting information. A must for any MW dx-er. Join the 'Circle' now by sending £7.50 (U.K. subs.) for a year, to, Bill SHaw, 1 Alt Avenue, Liverpool L31 7BJ..... **Radiotelex, Issue 120.** Just 4 x A5 sides this time, packed with logs and station info., printed in English. Details from Radiotelex, Postfach 103771, D - 2800 Bremen, West Germany..... **Freewave, Issue 159.** 24 page x A5 magazine, Dutch text, some photos and re-produced stickers. General European radio news... details from Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, Holland..... **Now Radio, Issue 49.** 24 page x A5 magazine covering radio generally. Details here from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... Finally, we must point out that we do receive numerous other publications, magazines and news-sheets each week, which we do not list above. The reason for this is the fact that they are not aimed at free radio, although occasionally do contain such material, when of course, we mention the fact. This week's batch included... **Music Week, Jocks, Disco Mirror, Broadcast, Sweden Calling DX-ers and Radio Netherlands Programme News.**

TAPE OFFERS. An unusual number of recordings of landbased stations arrived with us this week, which is reflected in the tape offers. It's to London we go first, for Tape 176, and yet another of the reggae / soul stations serving the capital.

This time we stop on **City Radio** and a programme recorded last Sunday afternoon, specifically featuring more a soft soul type of music..... For Tape 177, we travel North, and arrive at Nottingham, where we have a listen to this city's black community station, **Heatwave 105**. This particular recording is of a late night reggae show complete with 'royal' lady presenter..... Travelling still further, we reach the Manchester area, and find the **Illegal Broadcasting Company (I.B.C.)** playing 'hip-hop and house' music to the North East part of the city. This is tape 178. Finally, for Tape 179, we take a trip to Portugal's Algarve and have a listen to mostly British run station, **Solar Radio**. This particular top 40 type segment is in English, with just the odd Portuguese identification. All this week's tapes are off air (FM) and C.90's, the cost is just £2.00 each.

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND...DUBLIN. Things have quietened down considerably in Dublin, following all the excitement with the closure of **Energy 103**. All seems quite normal on **Q 102**. The signal on 738kHz. remains very good. 819kHz. is still alive, but only just audible at this location, in fact, **Cavan Community Radio** often has the edge over it. Poor FM conditions have prevented any serious listening on this band, although a quick check this morning yielded Q on 99.9, 101.9, 102.3 and 103.0MHz. Nothing special has been heard promoted for feature on Easter Monday, which seems unusual. In fact, we might just tune into Radio 2 (RTE) to hear the listeners' all time top 100, which they are playing from 07:00 until 18:30. Radio 2 can be heard over a large area of the U.K., on 612kHz.

Co. MONAGHAN. Most exciting in this area, with the commencement of programmes from **Kiss FM** based in Monaghan town. Test programmes continued throughout the week, with reports reaching us from all over the U.K., usually of reception after dark, and after Hilversum have vacated the channel (1008kHz.) about 21:00 (sometimes later!). Reports have also arrived from Southern Finland and West Germany! However, this is for MW reception. The FM situation is still not good. The tower, destroyed in recent storms, is reported as replaced by an ex- U.S. A.F. mast, but problems with the wind in the remote exposed area, is causing delays in getting the antennae installed again. Low power continued on 103.7MHz., we understand, with higher power expected as soon as they get a break in the weather. 'Live' programming was carried on the 1008kHz. on Thursday, via the link from the studio. Continuous music with adverts and commercials was noted. Considering the station was still in 'test' mode, the number of adverts heard was quite amazing. One promo was heard indicating that Scott Shannon's 'Rockin' America' would be aired each Saturday at 11:00, in fact a member of staff at an ILR station commented to us that in his 'promo spot' Scott had mentioned the new operation in Monaghan and its PD, Tom Hardy. Official programmes were due to start on Saturday, but despite hourly checks until lunchtime, nothing was heard at all from the station. A quick check in the late evening told us that they were once again back, but still with continuous music and adverts. Apparently, problems with interference caused by the local electricity supplier (E.S.B.) had caused the station to be off air yesterday, whilst the fault was sorted out. As we noted, they did return later but abandoned the opening until today. A quick check early on, yielded life on 1008kHz. At 11:00 today, the station officially commenced programmes, airing initially a one hour tape which gave all the disc jockeys a chance to say 'hello' to the listeners and give a brief run-down of what they have been up to before arriving in Monaghan. They each went on to play a record or two after their few words. Programme director, Tom Hardy, introduced the station formally and welcomed all to the new outfit. At midday, another syndicated show was aired, and featured Gary Owens (late of 'Soundtrack of the Sixties'). This show featured oldies and newies alike, along with interviews with the stars.

The weekday line-up, commencing tomorrow reads.... 06:00 Nick Richards..... 10:00 Tom Hardy..... 14:00 Owen Barry..... 19:00 John Friday..... 00:00 (till 06:00), tapes. Other presenters, to be heard mainly at the weekends, include Dennis Murray, Roland Burke, Miles Johnston and more.

John Friday, in his introduction, mentioned that his voice would be familiar to many listeners from voiceovers heard on stations as far apart as Belfast, Dublin and Monte Carlo!

Due to the delayed start, this report is not as comprehensive as we would have liked, due to it having to be rushed to meet the printing deadlines, but we do promise

that next week we will have much more news and information.

At this point, we should just like to wish all at Kiss our very best wishes and good luck for the future.

In the meantime, whatever happened to **North Dublin Community Radio**? They used to operate on 1008kHz. Maybe they still do? They had a raw deal, after being hounded off 100.0MHz.FM by 'the new Nova', now this. Does anyone have info about them? We believe they are still on 105.5MHz.

Not the only station to be aggrieved by Kiss, apparently **North West Community Radio** in Buncrana, Co. Donegal are not over pleased with the super signal, as they, too, operate on the same channel. A change here could be on the cards we believe.

Co. LONGFORD. **Longford Community Radio**, recently on extremely low power, on 1071kHz., following the loss of their very efficient antenna system, are apparently calling it a day. Station owner, Noel Cassidy, is reported as offering all LCR equipment for sale.

Co. CAVAN. **Breifni Regional Radio** on their new channel of 657kHz. are reported as being stronger in many areas than when they were on 1170kHz. In fact, we have no problems at all, here, once the BBC station on the same channel is nulled out. But once one gets nearer Dublin, however, the signal starts to 'wobble' and **BLB Community Radio** in Bray, Co. Wicklow can be heard underneath. Breifni are also broadcasting on 95.6MHz.FM. In Cavan, **Cavan Community Radio**, 'the big one' continues on 819kHz. Again, as one approaches Dublin, the signal starts to 'wobble', and Q 102 becomes dominant, even as far north as Navan, despite Q's low power on 819.

Co. DONEGAL. We are cheating a bit here, because we have been listening extensively to **WABC**, but not on 1242kHz., on 6300kHz. SW. The signal has been rather good since they appeared regularly on this band a couple of weeks ago. The station seems bright and lively and must be gaining listeners amongst the younger end in Coleraine and surrounds. Some adverts are noted, and plenty of 'Laser-type' jingles. Station owner, Paul, seemed quite excited on receiving a call from the Nottingham area of the U.K. in the week, as a result of the SW transmissions. We can assure him that we too, have received enquiries as a result of our adverts heard on his station, from areas well within the U.K. Last weekend's Sunday World newspaper carried a feature on the station and its first roadshow, which was apparently a great success. It was nice to see the faces behind the names we had heard (see this week's cuttings).

Co. LOUTH. It was mentioned on the free radio show on **Radio West**, this morning, that **Radio Carousel** may well have closed down their Dundalk operation. Apparently no programming can be heard, although the transmitters are reported as still alive. **Radio Carousel** in Navan continues as before, unaffected by occurrences in Dundalk. A quick check (Sunday afternoon) on 1260kHz. has yielded a blank carrier. The carrier is strong enough to silence the ILR on the same channel and could possibly be the old 1125kHz. Carousel transmitter. Further investigation is called for, here.

Problems still seem to beset the Kells relay of **Boyneside Radio** on 1332kHz. The station has been on and off air for some time, although was noted back in the week, but terribly distorted at times. It seems to us that the location may have changed, as the signal is definitely not as good as it used to be.

Co. LIMERICK. Further bad news from this area now, where we have just learned, only minutes before printing this issue, that "**Hits 954**" will officially close down on Saturday next at 20:00. The station owner tells us that commitments elsewhere are the reason for his decision. The station continues normally for this week, however, although odd deejays have already left.

Co. CORK. **South Coast Radio.. 98FM.. 'The Music Leader'.** A new D.J. joined on Saturday last, 19th, but only as a weekender. He is Bill Davis and is a first class presenter. It is not known where he has come from, but a caller on Romano's phone-in show, said he knew of him from other places. This addition should help alleviate the staff shortage situation just a little bit.

Over at **ERI**, the line-up has remained the same this past ten days or so, although the popular breakfast jock, Jim Lockhart is expected back on air tomorrow. There is only one newsreader at present, Joe O'Reilly, and there is no news service at all during the night (at least up till closedown at 03:00).



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LAND-BASED STATIONS : U.K.

BRISTOL. This time Terry covers the past three weeks activity in the city. Starting on Monday 7th March **Radio F.T.P.** (104.0) were on the air each evening from around 17:00. Some afternoons they were heard a little earlier than this, with non-stop test music. Signal strength was down during most of the week, but whether this was lower power, or a different location, is unknown. By Thursday (10th), the signal was a little better. '104 - stereo' is still being announced, but even when putting in a very good signal, the stereo pilot light is not lit. Friday afternoon (11th) saw **B.A.D. Radio** (105.2) switch its transmitter on at 16:45, but the transmission never properly got off the ground. Buzzes, hums and power variations caused several gaps in the output from the station. DeeJay 'Soul Twin Dee' programmed away as normal, despite the problems, with plenty of dedications. But after 17:40, the audio became just a hum, and then the transmitter cut out altogether. Nothing more was heard on 105.2MHz throughout the weekend, apart from a few snippets of music on Sunday afternoon (13th), but certainly no programming. Down on 104.0MHz, however, **Radio F.T.P.** were heard during the evenings on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (11th, 12th and 13th). A more professional sounding jock was heard on Saturday afternoon, running down an 'American Hot 100', which even included a weather forecast at 18:00.

Friday (18th) brought no sign of any stations at all, but on Saturday, (19th) **Radio F.T.P.** returned to the air at 16:00, with one of their best transmissions yet, both signal and audio wise. One of their main presenters 'Master C', mentioned that they had had requests for the station to go 24 hours per day. He said that this had been their original intention, and that by the summer, a full schedule would hopefully be in operation. The station was on again the following evening (20th), for its regular Sunday broadcasts, starting at 16:00, and going through until after midnight.

The local free radio scene has been dominated by the relative newcomer **Radio For The People** (104.0). However rivals **B.A.D. Radio** are still around, and were involved in a 'Best of Soul' event, organised by St. Pauls Promotions and held at 'Fowlers' on Grosvenor Road on March 19th. Many local crews appeared on this night, and the event brought the two 'free alternative radio stations' together, with many of the staff of both **F.T.P.** and **B.A.D.** appearing.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

19th - 21st March 1988.

This weekend, touched down on 23 stations, of which a mere three were in stereo.

New this week is :- **Strong Island** (92.3).

Missing / not heard :- **C.D.R.**, **Groove FM**, **Ram Jam Radio**, **P.R.S.**, **Sangam**, **Soul FM**, **Solar 93**, **Roots FM**, **Touch FM**, **Girls FM**, **TKO**, **Galaxy**, **Raiders FM** and **SW Sound**.

This time of year usually sees DTI activity at low level, as the funds begin to run dry. However, additional late funding from the government has seen activity at a new high, as 'The Great London Air-Raids' continue. The DoTI people continue to batter away at well worn targets, but even as they do, stations rise again, phoenix like, from the ashes. Two stations in particular, **LWR**(92.10) and **Rock to Rock** (90.25), seem to have borne the brunt of this latest onslaught. Other stations seem to have been moved against in a less determined, almost perfunctory manner. However, the increasing frequency of busts is beginning to take its toll, with several stations, apparently, seriously considering their future. To remain viable, a consistent performance is necessary to reassure advertisers and presenters alike. With the cost of transmitters varying between £200 and £350, the loss of two or three transmitters in a short time, is expensive, but bearable. A continuing high rate of loss of transmitters, will soon begin to eat into the reserves of even the most successful station. Against this background, can be seen the increasing tide of inter-station theft of transmitters. What is broadcasting one station this week, may well be broadcasting another station next week, and another the week after that! The DTI are now in a position to take their policy of economic sanctions against the stations to the logical conclusion, but seem to be always stepping back from the final push. Although raids were pursued through the week, none were noticeable over the weekend. That is, until the early hours of Monday (21st march), when both **RJR** (89.95 - stereo) and **Fresh FM** (103.1) left the airwaves, and are presumed busted.

Fresh FM (103.35) on their part, have either been masking **Clapham** low power reggae rocker **Galaxy Radio** (103.05), or completely pushed them off the air. **Super Fresh** with a very loud signal, had slipped down from their more normal 103.35, to 103.1MHz. This was most likely due to the hasty replacement of a lost transmitter, which had been put into place without being properly set up. 103.1MHz. puts them bang over the top of the **Radio Invicta** North Kent transmitter, and with the very strong signal being put out by **Fresh**, would have caused considerable problems for **Invicta** listeners. **Fresh** could not last long in this slot, and didn't.

As **Fresh** were being surgically removed, the final touches were being put to the studios of **LWR** (92.1). They powered back with a strong mono signal from a new studio site 'in the heart of the West End', so said the fastest man on radio, the very professional **Wayne Turner**, who always seems to be about when **LWR** return from a major bust.

As a further hedge against the DTI economic sanctions unit, **LWR** are diversifying into the package holiday business. They are co-promoting foreign holidays of sun, sand, sin and soul (tho' not necessarily in that order), in the nether reaches of the Med., for this summer. If memory serves correct, this has been done once before - whether by **LWR** or by another station, does not come immediately to mind.

It seems strange that, at a time when the DTI Panzer Divisions are steamrolling across London, that an organisation should choose this time to open a new station. But that is exactly what happened, when, with South London's **LWR** temporary silenced, North London's **Strong Island** chose 92.3MHz., to open up on, with the usual mix of soul and reggae. Plagued with inept presenters, poor equipment, and a studio environment which let in more of the falling rain than it kept out, it was surprising that they managed to stay on the air at all. They actually managed a 24 hour schedule, at least up until the time that **LWR** returned and blew them out of hearing - in South London at least.

Not only have operators to contend with the high rate of raids, but it was announced this week by the government, that they intend to press ahead, and extend nationwide, the 'Brent Experiment' (WR 203), to install 'concierges' at the entrances to all tower blocks. To this end, provision has been made to enable councils to introduce the service as soon as possible.

While many stations have received visits from the midnight marauders, there are still some very loud signals around. **Brixton's Passion Radio** (90.7) and **Faze 1** (90.95) are still putting out block busting signals despite the raids. This is indicative that the aerial systems have remained relatively untouched. Climbing over a windy, wet and slippery tower block roof, in the dark, 150 feet up in the air, to pull down an aerial which has been solidly fixed to the roof in the first place, is a daunting task not for the faint hearted.

At the other side of the spectrum, **London Rock** (89.5) made it two in a row, with their Saturday evening appearance, now sounding relatively together, and putting out a mix of modern rock. Also on Saturday, the new tighter **Hits FM** (105.5) made it on two different frequencies. They were first heard on their usual 105.5 slot, and then later through a relay on **Rock FM** (94.3). It is not known if this was an 'authorised' relay or just R-FM going through, what has become a normal Saturday evening occurrence, of setting up and testing the rig for their usual full Sunday's programming.

As further evidence of concentrated DTI activity, there were only three stations broadcasting in stereo over the weekend. One of these, **Tottenham's reggae / soulsters RJR** (89.95 - stereo) had disappeared in the early hours of Monday morning (21st March). The others were short weekenders **KISS FM** (93.95 - stereo) and **Harlesden's** seemingly untouchable **JBC** (104.3 - stereo). With **TKO** (102.4 - stereo) still off the air, this leaves **JBC** as the only weekday stereo service on air at the beginning of this week.

LONDON UP-DATE. The pressure is continuing on all the London 'private' stations, again, with the majority being missing at one time or another in the week. The big news this week, is that **LWR** (92.2), whom we thought might have closed altogether due to a massive onslaught by the DTI, have returned to the air. They had in fact, not been on the air fully, for at least two weeks, but tested last Sunday night (20th), following this with full programming on Monday morning (21st). They appear to have programmed continuously all week. The current uncertainty lies around the biggest of them all, **TKO** (102.4), who were missing all last weekend, and still had not been heard by Friday (25th). **Rock to Rock**

(90.2) were back at the start of the week after several days off the air, and as with LWR, have been noted all week. **Solar 93** (93.0) were back on the air on Friday (25th) after being off the air all week, but soon disappeared again, and have not been heard over the weekend at all. Many stations who were on the air last Sunday were missing by Monday, including, **RJR** (90.0), **Passion FM** (90.6), and **City Radio** (94.5). All returned to the air during the week. Finally, as we write on Sunday afternoon, **TKO** has still not returned to the air. Stations heard over the past seven days include... **London Greek Radio** (88.4), **RJR** (90.0), **Rock to Rock** (90.3), **Passion Radio** (90.6), **Faze 1** (91.0), **Sky FM** (91.7), **LWR** (92.1), **Studio 1** (92.7), **Jive FM** (92.9), **Playback FM** (93.1), **KISS FM** (93.95), **Rock FM** (94.3), **City Radio** (94.5), **R.F.L.** (96.1), **Traffic Jam** (97.9), **WNK** (102.8), **Fresh FM** (103.4), **Time Radio** (103.8), **G.R.C.** (104.4), and **Hits FM** (105.5). **Raiders FM** hope to be back on the air next week, when their new transmitter has been installed.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE and DERBYSHIRE. Last week there were still just the two stations operating to Leeds, **New Horizon FM** (91.8 - announced) and **Music City Radio** (90.3). **Horizon** were heard with programming during the week (evenings only), whereas **M.C.R.** only operated at the weekend. **Horizon** does tend to drift slightly between 91.7 and 91.9MHz., sometimes making reception difficult due to the proximity of some of the many **Radio 3** relays, the higher frequency being clearest. They also announce stereo, which seems to be rather intermittent. Still no sign of **ABC Radio**. This weekend, **Music City Radio** have not been heard at all, and **New Horizon FM** were late on the air, but did appear on Friday evening. The presenter announced that extended shows would start on Saturday at 12:00, and indeed, the station was heard during yesterday afternoon.

Across in **Hull**, things have been rather quiet recently, with **Radio Takoradi** not having been heard since 12th March, when their signal suddenly cut off at 11:05.

W.L.N.G. (104.9) continued with their regular schedule, and were operating on both Tuesday (22nd) and Thursday (24th) evenings between 20:30 and 22:30.

Rebel Radio (105.4) continues to regularly operate in the South Yorkshire area, and were heard on Monday 21st March between 19:00 and 21:00. The station now plans to make Mondays their regular broadcast night, and will bring back the old features such as telephone lines, competitions, etc. As always, **Scooter Jones** was the host on the show. A new station has begun operating calling itself **Village Radio**, on 104.85MHz., but announcing 105MHz. Test transmissions were noted on Saturday and Sunday (19th and 20th March), and the presenter called himself **Chris Roberts**. He announced that **Village Radio** would begin regular transmissions starting at 07:00 on Monday, 21st March. Nothing was heard at this time, but the station was noted on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights, usually between 22:00 and 23:00. The signal in the centre of **Sheffield** is reported to be not very strong.

A little further South in **Nottingham**, **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.0) were putting in a very good signal into South Yorkshire up until mid week. However the signal suddenly cut off mid - record, at 07:46 on Thursday morning, and nothing was heard for the rest of the day.

North Midlands Radio (105.5 - mono) were heard back on the air on Monday 21st March. They were monitored between 20:15 and 21:00, with a programme from **Steve St. John** of soul & funk. An address was read out of : **NMR**, P.O. Box 5, **Hunstanton**, **Norfolk** PE36 5AU.

MANCHESTER. The **DTI** were again active in the city on Friday morning, with another raid on **I.C.R.** (103.5), which is understood to have taken place at 10:30. The door was again axed down, before the officials took away both the transmitter and studio. Twenty minutes later, **WBLs** (102.4) left the air. The **Manchester Evening News** of yesterday (Saturday) carried the following headlines... "Raids on city pirate radio HQ's." and printed the following story.... 'A pirate radio station which helped police investigate the still unsolved murder of a **Manchester** grandmother has been raided by Government officials.

They used sledgehammers to break into the **Moss Side**-based **ICR** station. Another illegal station in the area, **WBLs**, was also raided.

Expensive equipment was confiscated in both swoops by the men from the Department of Trade and Industry, who were accompanied by police officers.

Detectives seeking the killer of **Elsa Hannaway**, recognising that **ICR** reaches a massive **Afro-Caribbean** audience, had

turned a blind eye to the broadcasting law and appealed to listeners for information. The station also made its own appeals after another unsolved murder - that of **Tony Gardner**.

Mr John Paul, a presenter with **WBLs**, said there was nobody in the temporary studio on the 16th floor of a flats block at **Medlock Court** when the door was smashed in.

He added "There were two presenters at **ICR**, but the door was broken down while they were shouting to ask them to wait a minute so they could get the key".

"Both are black-run radio stations. There have been raids before, but now they are beginning to get nasty. We provide a service by keeping people indoors listening to music instead of being on the streets."

A **DTI** spokesman confirmed the raids but refused to comment.'

An accompanying picture (see next week's cuttings sheet) showed the extent of the damage being surveyed by a member of the **WBLs** team. We understand from a reporter that **ICR**, due to having been raided twice in a short period of time, will not be back on the air for at least two weeks.

A station called, **Centre Radio**, which has broadcast recently on 92.1MHz., last weekend, changed its name to **Sunshine Radio** and is related to the original station of that name which broadcast last year from the same area.

MERSEYSIDE. Both **Radio Atlantis** (1197kHz.) and **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) were on the air on Monday morning. **Radio Atlantis** were having few microphone problems with it cutting out for much of the time, and this resulted in continuous music being played for a while. They were then noted off the air for a spell until around 12:00, when normal programmes resumed. Several comments were noted in the afternoon giving us the impression that the **DTI** were once again in the area. However the station carried on until closedown with **Rick Dane** at 18:00. **Radio Merseywaves** were noted early on Monday afternoon, but when we tuned in at 18:00, we were unable to hear them, and were not sure whether this was due to foreign interference or technical problems. They were heard later in the night however and reportedly closed down, with **Sydney** as normal, at 04:00. Again, although not monitored here, **Radio Julie** (104.85) were on the air on Monday night with a strong signal. Programmes were not broadcast during the daytime.

Thursday saw **Radio Merseywaves** return to the air on 1242kHz. and they were joined later in the day by **Radio Julie** on 104.8MHz.

These two were joined by **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz. on Friday morning and all three continued throughout the weekend and are still active at the time of going to print.

We were quite surprised to hear **Radio Veronica** on 104.7MHz. at the unearthly hour of 08:30 on Sunday morning, with non-stop music and identifications. Following last Sunday's problems, they were possibly testing a new location, and continued into normal Sunday programmes during the afternoon. The signal was quite good here in **Blackpool**, despite **Radio Julie** being more powerful alongside. As we write this piece, all four continue as normal.

THE MIDLANDS. The **DTI** have been active here also, this week. It is believed that **PCRL** were raided sometime on Thursday, as there were off air much of the day, also much of Friday, returning later that evening, on 103.6MHz. The other seven day operator, **Enterprise FM** were also 'visited' and were also off the air most of Friday, again, returning at about 21:00 that evening. A different transmitter was noted in operation, slightly above their original channel, on 91.98MHz. Also missing in the week, but we are unsure why, were the two Asian stations, **ACR** (105.7) and **MACR** (106.0). Both these stations were last heard on Monday night. **Powerhouse** appear to have been untouched and operated every night from 18:00 until the early hours and operated on 105.15MHz. A new station, called **Electro Radio** was heard last weekend on 95.0MHz. Heard on Saturday and Monday nights, they played a lot of house and hip-hop music and gave out an address of... c/o 13 **Hackwood House**, **Hartlebury Road**, **Oldbury**, **Warley**, **West Midlands** B69 1EG. Whether this station has anything to do with **Second City Radio** who used this channel, is not known. Finally, **WR** were heard from mid-day today on 105MHz. Special sixth birthday programmes were being broadcast.

BELFAST. Our reporter in this city, whilst actively engaged in events nearby, tells us that **Radio Feirste**, the Irish language pirate, was active in the city with a good signal, on 102.1MHz. FM, this week. They were noted on Wednesday and Thursday (23rd and 24th), playing continuous Irish and folk music.

OFFSHORE STATIONS.....RADIO CAROLINE. Lots of problems with severe noise to the station's signal on 6210kHz., have been occurring since the shortwave transmitter was switched back on, last Monday morning. The growling was present throughout Monday and Tuesday, and this intensified by Tuesday to such a point that it became impossible, or rather very unpleasant, to listen to. The characteristic of the interference also seemed to change with this increase in intensity. Whether this is indeed deliberate interference or a transmitter fault is not yet known. Looking at the problem logically, it could be either another station on the same channel with a faulty oscillator, or indeed a fault on Caroline's transmitter. Just because the noise disappears when Caroline switches off, does not automatically mean that it is their transmitter. A similar situation occurs with two slightly off channel transmitters. The heterodyne is there when both are on, but whichever switches off, the whistle will disappear. It seems odd however, that this 'growling' was not present during the first couple of weeks of tests if it was their own transmitter. It seems more likely to be from an external source. Perhaps more will be known by next week.

Onto the 558kHz. service, and on Monday morning we thought there might have been a staff change, as Steve Masters read the news in the early part of the breakfast show. However it was a false alarm, as Steve Conway did appear in that show, to read the news later. In fact, the staff on the ship have been constant for some time now, resulting in Steve Conway mentioning on Friday afternoon, just before the end of his show, that they were celebrating one whole month with no line - up changes. Apart for Tuesday 22nd, when Steve Masters and Steve Conway exchanged programmes, the line - up has remained the same all week... 03:00 Steve Masters... 05:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 Robbie Jay... 13:00 Steve Conway... 17:00 Steve Masters... 21:00 Alex. As on previous weekends, Mike Watts has hosted the 01:00 - 05:00 slot on Saturday, Sunday and Monday mornings. Also, close-down for maintainance remained on Monday night /Tuesday morning.

Last Sunday at around 17:50, Steve Masters mentioned that it was 8 years ago that day (20th) that the Mi Amigo sank, and continued with a tribute to the former Radio Caroline vessel. For those who do not remember that fateful day back in 1980, we have put together a special C-90 tape featuring extracts from the final 3 hours broadcast, prior to the Mi Amigo sinking, recorded in Essex. Due to the crew manning the pumps etc., there was very little dialogue at this time, and so we have airchecked some of the final announcements onto the last hour or so of the continuous music and adverts tape which was being broadcast. The final announcements by Stevie Gordon and Tom Anderson can be heard, as the crew prepared to abandon ship, and then the transmitter being switched off. To fill up the tape, several news bulletins from radio and TV the day after, have been included. For your copy of this historic recording, send £2.50 asking for Tape SP3.

FOR SALE: "Bob's Comedy Handbook" containing masses of unique material chosen from thousands of items used over the past six years in over 1500 Breakfast Shows on Radios Nova, Q 102 and Energy 103. This collection is now available as 60 pages of tried and tested material. The price is IR£25.00 from Bob Gallico, 156 Foxrock Park, Foxrock, Dublin 18, Eire.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE: "Radio Into The '90's" will be of interest to those who help in hospital, student and community radio. It will also be of great value to those intending to start up a new radio service. The venue is Durham and the date is Saturday 7th May. Details from East Newcastle Comm. Radio on (091) 234 0761.

FOR SALE: Radio Apollo Int. programme from 13th March (further to it being asked for in this spot last week!), featuring the voices of Dave Windsor, John Lewis and Cassidy Jones, along with records from Roxy Music. Studio quality, £2.00 for the 90 minute cassette from RAI, P.O. Box 5, Hunstanton, Norfolk PE36 5AU.

FOR SALE: All equipment from the successful "Hits 954" in Limerick. Can be heard in use up until Saturday next (2nd April), after which it will be switched off but can still be viewed on the premises at 5 Cecil Street. For more detailed information, ring (061) 42699 or 42508.

GENERAL: We have unfortunately been compelled through lack of space, to hold over a piece on SW aeralis and ideas. We plan to use this item next week.

SHORTWAVE STATIONS...Log for Sunday 27th March 1988.

6210kHz...**RADIO CAROLINE**, at 09:00gmt.
6230kHz...RIVERSIDE RADIO INT., at 08:15gmt.
6240kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:30gmt.
6240kHz...**RADIO RAINBOW INT.**, at 11:00gmt.
6240kHz...**W.L.R.**, at 11:02gmt.
6264kHz...E.M.R., at 09:54gmt.
6268kHz...UNID., at 10:44gmt.
6271kHz...RADIO SOUTHSEA, at 09:09gmt.
6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 11:24gmt.
6276kHz...**RADIO BLOND PIRAAT**, at 08:55gmt.
6276kHz...UNID., at 09:55gmt.
6279kHz...**RADIO NEW WAVE**, at 08:40gmt.
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:30gmt.
6286kHz...RADIO 48, at 09:26gmt.
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 11:12gmt.
6295kHz...RADIO KRISTEL, at 08:55gmt.
6295kHz...RADIO SKYLINE, at 10:35gmt.
6299kHz...WABC, at 10:06gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 08:15gmt.
6306kHz...B.R.I., at 09:06gmt.
6315kHz...**RADIO NEW WAVE**, at 10:16gmt.
6315kHz...RADIO DELTA, at 12:10gmt.
6317kHz...RADIO TUTENCHAMEN, at 09:48gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 09:42gmt.
7369kHz...UNID., at 09:35gmt.
7374kHz...UNID.(Waves?), at 08:10gmt.
7385kHz...RADIO NORDLIGHT INT., at 10:20gmt.
7429kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 12:00gmt.
7490kHz...UNID., at 10:55gmt.

Conditions today can only be described as grim. Even Radio Caroline was only putting in a weak signal to our area. However, on speaking to a colleague in Harwich, he had been listening to the short wave transmissions all day, in preference to the 558 service, the sound of which he described as poor in comparison. This was unquestionably the groundwave signal. We logged no British stations at all. Others didn't fare much better, but being in different locations, managed to pick up different stations. We were thankful to our friends in Bremen, West Germany, today, who took advantage of the long skip conditions and logged a great number more than other U.K. loggers. Many thanks to those who telephoned in their logs on (0253) 882017, from Guernsey, the Midlands and Bremen.

Radio New Wave were heard early, on 6279kHz., but then the transmitter kept cutting out. A few minutes later, another Dutch operator, believed to be Radio Blond Piraat, came on around the same channel, and announced that Radio New Wave were having crystal problems, and would be moving up to 6315kHz. Radio Blond Piraat then went off the air.

LOG FOR SATURDAY 26th MARCH 1988.

6210kHz...**RADIO CAROLINE**, at 09:12gmt.
6240kHz...DELTA RADIO, at 12:56gmt.
6274kHz...RADIO TUTENCHAMEN, at 12:07gmt.
6275kHz...RADIO BLOND PIRAAT, at 09:33gmt.
6287kHz...RADIO 48, at 10:33gmt.
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 11:23gmt.
6299kHz...WABC, at 09:22gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:40gmt.
6303kHz...UNID., at 09:43gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 09:36gmt.

An amendment to last week's log, the unidentified station heard under the German numbers station, is reported to be Radio Waves Int.

Our thanks to everyone for this week's contributions. Unfortunately, some items have had to be held over or severley edited, due to lack of space. At this rate, we are going to end up with a weekly magazine!

GENERAL: We have had rather a lot of mail this week requesting information on SW aeralis and receivers, following our recent small feature on FM aeralis. Without further ado, we must point everyone in the direction of Radio Netherlands who tell us that the latest edition of their excellent publication, 'Receiver Shopping List' is now available. This booklet is well worth sending for and features scores of fine receivers, both expensive and less so. Request a copy by writing to Jonathon Marks, Media Network, English Section, Radio Nederland Wereldomroep, Postbus 222, 1200 JG Hilversum. The Netherlands. No need to include an SAE or return postage.